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Students march for divestment

By Bronwyn Oatley

In the midst of a heavy snow-fall on Monday, March 4, over 125 students marched from Proctor terrace to the College's administrative center in Old Chapel, carrying signs, chanting and wearing orange squares, during what organizers called "a national day of action" for divestment.

The event was one of over 20 such demonstrations that took place on college campuses on the same day across the country according to student organizer Jenny Marks '14. While national events differed in form, all student groups had a similar demand — the divestment of college and university endowment funds from fossil fuel manufacturing companies in the fight for climate justice.

At Middlebury, student organizers presented the same request as seven students voiced on Feb. 16 when they presented to the Board of Trustees. "By March 15," organizer Laura Berry '16 explained, "we want the Board of Trustees to make a public statement that by 2016 the College will divest fully from fossil fuel and arms manufacturing companies."

Berry was just one of the many students responsible for generating enthusiasm for Monday's event, a rally organized by a coalition of pro-divestment student groups, including Divest for Our Future and the Socially Responsible Investment Club.

During the march, the mass of students wound around snow-covered paths, chanting, "Money for students' education, not for climate devastation. Money for homes and education, not for war and exploitation."

Inside Old Chapel, Tim Spears, vice president for academic affairs, was one of the few senior-level administrators present at the time of

the demonstration.

"I think it's an admirable display of political spirit and commitment on a snowy March day," he said from his office, as students marched around the front of the building.

Down below, students voiced a variety of perspectives on the event and on the divestment movement at large.

Steven Kasperek '16, a student with no prior involvement with the divestment movement on campus, was visibly impressed.

"I'm really glad that I came," he said. "I feel like this is a really powerful group that we have out here right now, and the fact that there are students who are passionate about this type of thing is something new to me, because normally students aren't so concerned about the future and about preserving it for generations to come."

Drew Vollmer '13, a student who passed by the march but did not attend the demonstration, aired an alternative perspective.

"At Middlebury, environmental groups can mobilize lots of supporters and there are no opposition groups," he said. "Student rallies like the divestment march are, to me, largely a product of one group's passion about the issue and not necessarily a result of reasoned and well-considered arguments."

Vollmer was critical of the movement, explaining that he believed divestment to be an "ineffective gesture" in the campaign against climate change. "Advocates seem to argue that oil money in politics is the sole factor stopping climate action and that divestment would remove oil's legitimacy and pave the way for a carbon tax, but I think this is a horrible oversimplification. [...] Climate action is

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PAUL GERARD

On March 4, nearly 125 students marched from Proctor to Old Chapel to attempt to persuade the administration to divest from fossil fuels and gun manufacturers, despite the wind and the snow.

Delta house to face Council's vote

By Kathryn DeSutter

The Residential Life Committee, a subcommittee of Community Council, has recommended that Delta house be disbanded due to failure to comply with Inter-House Council (IHC) and college regulations.

On Tuesday, March 12, Community Council at-large will vote on the passage of the report that could pose a steep challenge to the existence of the house commonly referred to by students as "ADP." The results of the Council's vote will then go to the desk of President of the College Ronald D. Liebowitz for a final decision on the future of the organization.

"This is the biggest place to party on campus — without question," said President of Delta Luke Battle '14. "Without it, I think there would be a really, really

big void in the social scene that wouldn't be filled by anywhere else."

The primary concern of the Residential Life Committee is the amount of dorm damage — approximately \$1,800 — that Delta has already accumulated this academic year. After seeing around \$10,000 of dorm damage last year, the College stipulated that Delta's damage would have to remain below \$1,500 for the 2012-2013 academic year. The other social houses' damage is capped at \$2,500.

Battle called the \$1,500 goal "unattainable" given the size of Delta's parties, which often draw 200 to 400 students, according to Battle. "They're really setting us up to fail here, as far as dorm damage goes," he added.

Co-Chair of Community Council Barrett Smith '13 also cited the

lack of registered parties as a serious concern.

"Part of the responsibility of a social house is to throw registered parties," said Smith. "[The houses] are given certain privileges, and in exchange, they have to comply with Vermont state law and other requests of the College."

Battle maintains that while Delta is making a concerted effort to follow the rules, the registration process for parties is overly exhaustive.

"We understand that we have not complied completely with the College," said Battle. "We're trying to change so that we are complying with their wishes. We threw our first registered party of the year this past Saturday and it was a big success, but at the same time, the preparations that had to

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POSSE RETREAT DRAWS OVER 100



COURTESY OF JIN CHEN

Amitai Ben Abba '15.5, Steven Kasperek '16, Brandon Greer '16 and Michael Garel-Martorana '16 participated in the Posse Plus retreat this past weekend. Students and faculty discussed class, power and privilege in America over the weekend of March 1 in Silver Bay, N.Y. For more coverage, see page 16.

It Happens Here travels to capitol

By Emily Singer

On Thursday, Feb. 28, five students and two faculty members represented It Happens Here (IHH) at a White House event to mark the culmination of the first National Teen Dating Violence Awareness and Prevention month.

Luke Carroll Brown '13.5, Caitlin Waters '13, Addie Cunniff '13, Kristina Johansson '14 and Emily Pedowitz '13, as well as Professor of Women's and Gender Studies (WAGS) Sujata Moorti and Director of Chellis House Karin Hanta spent the day with representatives from the Department of Education, the Department of Justice, senior White House officials and leaders of sexual violence prevention programs from high schools, colleges and non-profit organizations.

The group was invited to the event by White House Liaison to

Young Americans and Associate Director of the Office of Public Engagement Ronnie Cho. Carroll Brown met Cho while interning at the White House last semester, and Cho offered advice on how to better combat the issue of sexual assault on college campuses.

IHH was notified of the event two weeks prior, but was given little information as to what exactly the event would entail. According to Carroll Brown, the invitation noted that the event would be led by White House Advisor on Violence Against Women Lynn Rosenthal and that administrative announcements, a panel and a discussion would be included in the programming.

Acting Associate Attorney General Tony West and Rosenthal spoke at the event. Vice President of the United States Joe Biden and Senior Advisor to the President

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BEYOND THE BUBBLE

BY DANNY ZHANG

In late February, a high-profile report from cyber security company Mandiant documented in detail what appears to be a coordinated hacking campaign from the Chinese military, which has long targeted not only U.S. government networks but those of large corporations and media outlets.

The *New York Times* published an article in January detailing security compromises in the company's computer system from Chinese hackers in recent months. In particular, after the *Times* published an investigative article probing the family wealth of outgoing Premier Wen Jiabao, hackers successfully gained entry into the company's network, including the email accounts of the two reporters who worked on the Wen story.

In early November, the company hired security firm Mandiant to expunge the hackers. Mandiant determined that the attacks were diverted through compromised networks within the United States. In the days following the *Times* story, *The Wall Street Journal*, *The Washington Post* and *Bloomberg* also reported that their networks had been infiltrated on and off since 2008.

The Mandiant report traces the origins of these and other recent cyber-attacks to an office building in Shanghai, which serves as the headquarters of Unit 61398 of China's People's Liberation Army. American intelligence officials working in both the executive branch and Congress concur with the findings and have reportedly been aware of the origin of these attacks for years.

The group of hackers is commonly known in national security circles and their corporation victims as "Comment Crew" or "Shanghai Group." Comment Crew uses spearphishing techniques in most of their attacks, sending emails to targets with links that once clicked on, gives system access to the hackers. In addition to major media outlets, they have persistently aimed to infiltrate networks at the Departments of Defense and State, the Coca-Cola Company, as it negotiated the acquisition of a huge Chinese juice company, and military contractor giant Lockheed Martin.

Overall, Comment Crew has gained access to companies from 20 industries since 2006. It has stolen all kinds of documents ranging from technology blueprints to business secrets to oil pipeline project files.

Government officials and industry experts are especially concerned about Comment Crew's ability to wreak havoc by infiltrating major infrastructure networks like electricity and gas line grids. President Barack Obama even addressed the issue in his State of the Union Address on Feb. 12, without specifically calling out China or other perpetrators.

Last week, China's Defense Ministry stated that it too was the victim of repeated cyber attacks, 140,000 of them per month, most of which originate from the United States.

"China resolutely opposes hacking actions and has established relevant laws and regulations and taken strict law enforcement measures to defend against online hacking activities," responded a Chinese government spokesperson to the recent public accusations.

The escalation of cyber attacks traded between the two countries threatens a delicate bilateral relationship between the United States and China. White House officials insist that they have repeatedly brought up the issue in meetings with Chinese leaders, but are considering more serious action if the Chinese do not relent. However, former Secretary of State Hillary Clinton stressed that China is not the only nation that is directing attacks at the U.S.

In recent months, lawyers and intelligence officials in the U.S. government have been working to establish rules and plans for defense against cyber warfare. Due to the potency of these weapons to severely paralyze a country's infrastructure networks, Obama is expected to have sole authority over their use. In 2011, President Obama ordered an attack on computers in Iran to disrupt that country's nuclear program without affecting other civilian networks.

Students react to issues of diversity

By Jess Berry

On Wednesday, Feb. 27, Dean of the College and Chief Diversity Officer Shirley Collado sent an all-student email announcing the College's participation in the Diverse Learning Environments (DLE) survey, conducted by the Higher Education Research Institute (HERI) at the University of California, Los Angeles (UCLA). Collado sent a link to the survey itself to students on March 1.

In the first email, Collado wrote that the survey is "part of the College's ongoing efforts to review and assess our campus climate as it relates to issues of diversity and inclusion" and that the goals of the survey are to "better understand how students are engaging across differences and finding community, understand students' experiences in selecting majors and improve classroom dynamics and campus life."

The "ongoing efforts" of the College to review diversity come after a recommendation from the 2006 Human Relations Committee (HRC), which was charged by President of the College Ronald D. Liebowitz with the job of evaluating diversity at the College. Special Assistant to the Dean of the College and Senior Advisor for Diversity Jennifer Herrera explained that based on the committee's evaluation, the College has agreed to review diversity on campus every five years.

Herrera also said that in her 10 years working at the College, "a more comprehensive survey [... that] focused on the climate of diversity and inclusion on campus" has not been administered. Collado agreed, saying this was the first campus climate survey administered at the College of which she was aware.

Collado said that the College felt "it was time" for a survey addressing campus life. She also stressed the hope that there will be a high student response rate for the survey.

"Every student has something very

valuable to say on the survey," said Collado. "This is not a survey for a specific subset of students or students with particular interests."

Some of the questions on the survey address students' interactions with faculty and staff, their experiences in the classroom and in residence halls and whether or not they have experienced any sort of discrimination or harassment based on their race, gender, sexuality, disability or spiritual affiliation.

Emma Ashby '13, a co-chair of Middlebury Open Queer Alliance (MOQA), discussed the gap between the College's aim to address queer diversity through the survey and its practices on campus. She discussed in particular the idea of using affirmative action in admissions not just for race, but also for queer students.

"If [being queer is] going to be part of your identity," said Ashby, "and you're going to have surveys about it and talk about how you can foster it and support it, you should probably also talk about how you can attract it and attract people who are going to be a part of that vibrant community."

"If the College recognizes that you can be discriminated against for [being queer], why are we not in recruitment trying to reach out to people?"

Tim Garcia '14, a hispanic student and co-president of Distinguished Men of Color (DMC), felt that the questions on the survey addressed issues of diversity on campus, but that the survey also should have asked if the respondent was affiliated with Posse, as he believes it is important to acknowledge that many students of color on campus are Posse Scholars.

Garcia expressed deep concerns with diversity on campus. He cited the dilemma of why students of color take longer to finish their undergraduate degree relative to their peers as one issue the College needs to address.

"The Middlebury campus is diverse when it comes to student experiences (i.e. educational background, geographic diversity, academic or extracurricular activities)," wrote Garcia in an email, "but when it comes to race, I have observed a dangerous commodification of individuals of color."

Garcia explained that his experience of diversity at the College is significantly different than that of high school or outside of campus.

"Contrary to my experience in high school, diversity at Middlebury for a person of color has come to mean a sense of obligation to represent the entirety of the race."

"The fear of being criminalized and exoticized, which I must cope with as a man of color on a normal basis in the real world, is exacerbated because I am in the microcosm that is Middlebury College," wrote Garcia.

The welcome screen to the survey boasts HERI's dedication to conducting over 40 years of research on the college student experience. Vice President for Planning and Assessment and Professor of Psychology Susan Baldrige explained the benefits of using a national survey as opposed to a Middlebury-generated one.

"We benefit from the survey construction and validation expertise that HERI has," wrote Baldrige in an email. "We also get access not only to reports of the responses of our own students, but to comparison data from students at other institutions who take the same survey. [...] This helps us understand our own findings in a broader context."

HERI also sponsors the first-year student survey that the College administers to incoming students each fall.

The survey will be open for students to complete until the beginning of April.

College seeks to attract donors

By Kelsey Collins

Alumni Appreciation week kicked off with a dinner on Monday, March 4 in Atwater Dining Hall hosted by Mark Benz '56 and Eric Benz '88. Throughout the week students are encouraged to head to the Davis Family Library to write thank-you notes to donors. This initiative is part of the annual giving plan and is designed to thank donors to the College and to raise awareness among students about how donors make their college experience possible.

Among peer institutions, the College ranked sixth in the dollar value of total giving last year but was second in the giving rate of its alumni. 50.6 percent of college alumni donated in 2012, just trailing Williams College, which received donations from 53.3 percent of its alumni.

While the College fell short of its 56 percent participation rate in 2012, the College Advancement and Development offices are hoping to reach an alumni-giving rate of 58 percent for 2013 through fundraising initiatives such as Spark a Match. Through the "Spark" challenge, an anonymous donor has promised to donate \$20,000 if 2,000 alumni donate by March 31.

"The Spark program is something people respond to pretty well," said Maggie Paine, director of advancement communications. "A time limit is effective in helping people who are planning on giving anyway to give their gift now, rather than waiting until [the end of the fiscal year] on June 30."

The College raised just over \$42.4 million last year. While this figure is down slightly from \$43.2 million in 2011, this change can be attributed to "normal fluctuations in year-to-year fundraising," according to Associate Vice President for Development Megan Williamson.

The largest overall donation the College received in 2012 was the gift of 377 acres of land by Will Jackson '51, a member of the Board of Trustees, last January. The donated property, located west of the campus along Route 125, is worth \$4.7 million.

The College also received \$1.5 million for the construction of the new field house, which constitutes its largest cash donation received in 2012.

"The field house was an important [fundraising] campaign last year," said Jim Keyes, the vice president for college advancement. "The trustees made the decision to build a field house, but felt strongly that [the project] not be funded through debt. It cost about \$46 million to build, and we raised 100 percent of that."

The offices of College Development and Advancement Services have sought to develop ways to help donors realize the direct impact of their gifts to the College.

"What I'm seeing as a fundraiser is that increasingly, people are interested in restricting their gifts and knowing exactly where their money is going to go," said Williamson. "But Middlebury has cultivated a high level of unrestricted annual giving, among parents in particular, who know that the impact for their student is going to be immediate and they want to give the College the greatest flexibility to do the best thing for their students, and we really try to cultivate that."

MiddStart is an example of a recent fundraising campaign designed to make connections between donors and current students, which helps entrepreneurial students find funding for their projects through gifts from alumni and friends of the College.

"MiddStart is a way for annual fund donors to see their impact and to actual-

ly connect with students here on campus and support a student project and then watch it be carried out," said Paine. "It's been rewarding, and we are getting donors who have no connection to the College, other than they are interested in the project or they know the student."

Charitable contributions to colleges and universities in the United States increased 2.3 percent in 2012, according to the Voluntary Support of Education survey, conducted by the Council for Aid to Education. At \$31 billion, the total is still below 2008's historical high of \$31.6 billion.



CHARLOTTE GARDINER

Seniors gather on March 4 to hear father-son act, Mark Benz '56 and Eric Benz '88, discuss post-graduate life.

Biden speaks to IHH on sexual violence

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Valerie Jarrett, while not mentioned on the agenda received by attendees, were also present to give speeches.

IHH representatives cited Biden's 40-minute speech as one of the more powerful elements of the event.

"Biden's speech focused a lot on shifting the societal norm away from one of silence toward one in which not speaking out against gender-based violence is considered intolerable," said Waters.

Coincidentally, the event was held hours after Congress reauthorized the Violence Against Women Act.

"As we walked into the conference room in which the event occurred, our phones got the notification that VAWA [Violence Against Women Act] had been reauthorized by the House of Representatives," Pedowitz said, adding that the announcement "made the event even more incredible."

A portion of the conference was led by Men Can Stop Rape, an advocacy and educational group that aims to engage students on issues of sexual assault and domestic violence in the hopes of shifting the culture on campuses to one without violence, particularly men's violence against women.

IHH hopes to bring members of Men Can Stop Rape to campus as a means of stressing the importance of defining and promoting healthy relationship behaviors.

The students and faculty walked away from the event with renewed energy and inspiration, especially in looking forward to upcoming IHH events on campus.

"Sexual violence on campus is still massively underreported, and returning from this trip, I believe we need to be examining what barriers are in place and the culture at Middlebury that contributes to the under-reporting," Johansson said. "I believe that we can push our work to end sexual and domestic violence further by taking a leader-



COURTESY OF LUKE CARROLL BROWN

Director of Chellis House Karen Hanta, Luke Carroll Brown '14, Caitlin Waters '13, Antoinette Rangel '09, Emily Pedowitz '13, Kristina Johansson '14, Addie Cuniff '13 and Professor of Women's and Gender Studies Sujata Moorti traveled to Washington, D.C. with It Happens Here for a White House event to mark the start of the first National Teen Dating Violence Awareness and Prevention month.

ship role in not only awareness but also in prevention."

The speeches also reminded attendees that while their actions and audiences are small, the ripple effects are much greater.

"Going to an event such as the one we attended at the White House allowed us to see that we are not alone," Moorti said. "There are others, younger than IHH members, who are working on these issues. There are others such as Lynn Rosenthal and Joe Biden, [and] such a meeting engenders the belief that change is possible."

Following the conference, the members of IHH visited with Vermont Democratic Representative Peter Welch and staff mem-

bers, where Welch pledged to work with IHH in applying for a \$300,000 grant from the Department of Justice to increase awareness about sexual assault, increase prevention efforts and improve support for survivors of assault on campuses. Welch will provide IHH with a letter of support and aid in seeking out other grant sources.

Funding for the trip was provided by the President's Office and the WAGS department. IHH will host a narrative storytelling event on April 22. Students can submit their own personal stories through go/IHH. IHH hosts regular meetings that are open to students, faculty, staff and administrators on Mondays at 9 p.m. in the Chellis House.

National energy builds for divestment

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necessary, but efforts are much more productive elsewhere."

Yet student organizers disagreed, likely buoyed in part by the enthusiasm exhibited by other pro-divestment student groups on the national stage.

"Today's events around the country were an incredible indicator of the potential for the American students' movement of our generation," said Marks. "The rhetoric is clear: divestment is a tactic, climate justice is the goal."

In mid-February, Marks was joined by Molly Stuart '15 and Teddy Smyth '15, two other student organizers, at the Power Up! Divestment Convergence at Swarthmore College. The event, hosted by Swarthmore

Mountain Justice, brought together student representatives from 75 colleges and universities to discuss divestment and other tactics associated with the climate justice movement.

At the convergence, students attended panels, participated in discussions and built upon the idea for the march fo(u)rth event, playing off of the syntactic momentum imbedded within the date.

During the week following the convergence, student organizers from schools across the nation collaborated over email and by conference call, coordinating photos and videos to be captured during the events, which organizers plan to use as they move forward.

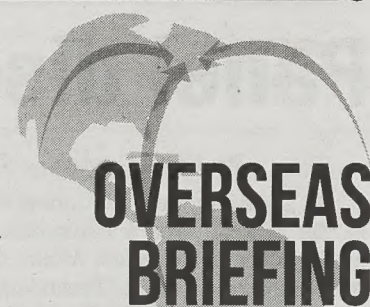
Students from Harvard University, Mount Holyoke College and Locust Valley

High School also created a Facebook page to promote the event, which by midnight on Monday night displayed photos of March Fo(u)rth demonstrations that had occurred at Smith College, Bowdoin College, Stanford University and Brown University, as well as at Middlebury College.

Following Monday's demonstration, Marks described her motivation.

"These endowments belong to us and exist for us — colleges and universities must be educational institutions first and corporations second," she wrote in an email.

"If the students demand divestment from destructive industries, it is ultimately our money, our school, our power that will ensure that this happens — it's our future and the lives of folks around the world that we are fighting for."



BY LANDER KARATH '14

Florence, Italy

When I told my relatives, friends and acquaintances that I was studying abroad in Italy, they usually gave me a cliché response along the lines of, "Take pictures while you're riding a Vespa and sampling wine!" or, "You're going to have the time of your life eating gelato and drinking cappuccinos!" When most people think of traveling and studying in Italy, an *Eat, Pray, Love* fairytale seems to dominate their visions of my five-month stay in Florence. To them, it's a land where all problems cease to exist and pristine beauty is found at every corner. In reality, Italy is like anywhere else on Earth and has its imperfections and challenges. Although my time here hasn't been what family and friends predicted it would be, it has surprised me in ways I would never have expected.

I arrived in Florence a month ago and was immediately overwhelmed. My Italian was rough due to my taking the fall semester off to be a field organizer for the Obama campaign. And to be completely honest, Italian was never my top priority while at Middlebury. I struggled with some cultural aspects, a sense of loneliness and anxiety attacks upon ordering a sandwich (which now seem comical, but at the time were quite stressful). At times I wondered why I was here, and if I had made a huge mistake in choosing to study abroad.

After spending roughly two weeks in Florence, I began to notice a repeated use of a particular phrase: *piano, piano*, or "little by little." The phrase has been used by almost every Italian whom I have encountered here. For Italians, it is a way of life. It's used in regard to learning new subjects in school, maintaining relationships, completing work and even paying bills. For me, it wasn't until I adopted this phrase as my guide to living abroad that I was able to see the opportunities laid out before me.

This gradual shift in mindset was the best thing that could have happened to me. No longer was I overly worried about messing up my Italian, because I knew that *piano, piano*, my skills would improve. I no longer fretted about being alone, because *piano, piano*, I would find friends soon enough. Most importantly I don't have to worry about living up to my own expectations of having an amazing semester abroad, because *piano, piano*, I know that I will make the most of time here.

Even though Italy hasn't turned out to be a romantic journey with Julia Roberts, it has been an amazing opportunity for self-reflection and personal growth, which, in my book, is more important. I've been able to eat amazing pasta and pizza with my wonderful host family, see some of the world's oldest and most important art, attend the World Championships of cross-country skiing and, most importantly, interact with people of a different culture who, at the end of the day, aren't all that different from you and me.

When I was told, that I was going to have the time of my life, my friends and relatives were right. However, the quality of my time here has not been defined by the location. Italy is a beautiful country with a rich culture, but what will make my semester here truly amazing is an openness and acceptance to moving forward. I know that as I progress through my time in Italy, college and life, there will be a series of ups and downs, excitements and disappointments, rewards and losses. But *piano, piano*, I will make sense of it all.

Students to offer Korean classes

By Nicolette Amber

Two members of the Korean American Student Association (KASA) are offering a free weekly Korean language class every Thursday evening from 7 p.m. to 8 p.m. in the Gifford lecture hall. Class instructor Robin Cho '15 and KASA president Eun-ah Choi '15 have been teaching impromptu Korean courses through the fall semester and winter term due to the absence of Korean among the official languages offered by the College.

Cho started instructing classes during the past spring semester, and Choi instructed the first winter term workshop.

"I believe this has been going on for quite a long time, in that KASA always has had this Korean language group that taught American students or any international students," said Cho. Although it is not a new development for KASA to have members teach voluntary Korean classes, Cho and Choi are hoping to develop a stronger relationship between KASA and the general student body.

"I'm hoping to see that [students] will come to the KASA meetings and partici-

pate in activities other than noodle night," said Cho. KASA will be hosting a number of other activities this spring, such as a Korean Barbeque, guest lecturers speaking about North and South Korea and Korean language tables.

Cho, who is originally from Seoul, stressed the importance of cultural exchange experiences, and said of her American-born classmates, "I'm trying to learn about American culture [while I'm here] and I think it would be a great opportunity for you to learn about our culture as well, since we are here ready to tell you interesting stories of Korea."

Choi taught the first Korean winter term workshop this past January, which attracted many more students than anticipated.

Currently Cho is teaching an intermediate-level class as a continuation for the students she taught during the fall semester, and for the students taught by Choi during winter term. However, she was quick to add that she would willingly teach twice a week; one more day for another beginner class, should interest be expressed.

Josiah Stork '15, one of Cho's students, feels that studying Korean is a great compli-

ment to his official academic pursuits.

"I'm a Chinese major so its amazing to see how many of the words were borrowed from Chinese into Korean and the distinct similarities between the cultures, but also the drastic differences that are there as well," said Stork. "Also, just understanding both their histories and their languages is really interesting."

Cho is a native-born Korean, but has previous experience teaching Korean as a result of the eight years she spent living in Germany and Poland, where she would frequently invite friends over for informal Korean language and cultural lessons.

Both Cho and Choi emphasized their hope for a more integrated KASA. Their goal is to create a reciprocal relationship between the American culture present at the College and the opportunities for education on Korean culture. Ultimately they hope that Korean will become an official language of study at the College.

For anyone interested in KASA, its events and meetings, the language class or simply a conversation about Korean culture contact Robin Cho at dcho@middlebury.edu.

Panel discusses role of technology in education

By Ilana Gratch

On Thursday, Feb. 28, Core and Change in the Liberal Arts, a committee formed by the office of Academic Affairs, hosted a panel discussion titled "Technology & The Liberal Arts." The discussion was meant to explore how new technologies can be used to advance the College's mission.

The panel was moderated by Special Assistant to Academic Affairs Sarah McGowen and panelists included, Manager of Web and Interactive Digital Media Technologies Joe Antonioli, Associate Professor of History Louisa Burnham, Christian A. Johnson Professor of Music Peter Hamlin and Assistant Professor of Computer Science David Kauchak.

Each of the panel members were asked to respond to the following question: "How can we use emerging technologies to support Middlebury's mission to cultivate the intellectual, creative, physical, ethical and social qualities essential for leadership in a rapidly changing global community?"

Taking the podium first, Antonioli began by defining the term "emerging technologies" as more durable and flexible technologies, or in other cases, the convergence of already existing technologies. He also laid

out some of the challenges that arise from the abundance of all of the new technologies available.

"We need to investigate each technology as it comes, and technology is being developed at a very fast pace now," he said. "So we need to come up with a way to look at these technologies and decide which ones are worth investing our time and money in, and which ones are going to be most useful to us."

Antonioli pointed out that one way to go about this process is to think about how a new technology would affect the activities at Middlebury. In other words, is it just taking an activity that already exists and making it digital, or is it creating a new learning opportunity?

Hamlin spoke next and began by describing his own personal philosophy about technology, specifically as it relates to music.

"Of course the pace of change [regarding technology] is really sudden, but I don't really believe that there is something fundamentally different [about music] and that's how I go about my teaching," he said.

Hamlin did, however, decide to offer a new class involving electronic music, for which technology is necessary.

Burnham presented a slightly different perspective, as she has come to heavily integrate technology into her teaching. Her tests are now online, her grading is all done on her iPad, and she has also started having her students discuss readings on online forums before doing so in discussion sections.

"My idea is to use the technology to make simpler the things that can be made simple for me, and also to exploit the possibilities of the technologies outside the classroom to enhance the experience of students and me in the classroom," she said.

Kauchak then turned the discussion toward online learning, and how the College might benefit in the long term by a shift toward the new technology. Describing the employment of the new tools by a Stanford professor, he described how the California-based faculty member is recording himself teaching every lesson plan and putting it online for his students to watch the night before they have class. Kauchak then described that the lessons are also accompanied by problems, and the professor is able to use the responses to tailor his teaching to the sections of the material that are giving students the hardest time. While Kauchak hasn't yet implemented this online teaching in his class, he explained that he has consid-

ered it and encouraged others to explore its potential as well.

McGowen then opened the discussion to a question-and-answer session, which prompted discussion on topics ranging from the challenges faced by new learning styles of students, to the interaction between newer, more electric music and older, more classical music.

L. Douglas and Laura J. Meredith Dean of Library Information Services and Chief Information Officer Michael D. Roy felt this was an especially productive part of the panel discussion.

"In general I was happy with it the panel, but I didn't feel as if the presentations directly confronted the question that was posed," he said. "I think in the discussion, however, we started to get closer to engaging those questions."

Will Hanley '15 enjoyed the panel discussion. "It was very interesting to hear about how teachers are constantly finding new ways of changing their curriculum, and how other people are influencing them around the world," he said.

Over the coming months Core and Change in the Liberal Arts will continue to explore the role of technology in the liberal arts experience.

WRMC radio launches website redesign

By Isabelle Dietz

WRMC, the College's student-run radio station, is launching its new website today. The website, which provides many new features and is designed to become a concentrated source of information for music culture on campus, is coming out in conjunction with a new look for WRMC. Moss Turpan '14, the creative director of WRMC, spearheaded the creation of the new website and directed the station's larger rebranding effort.

Turpan pointed to the changing ways in which students listen to music and learn about new bands as a reason for the site's redesign.

"The purpose that college radio originally fulfilled was to inform people about up-and-coming music," said Turpan. "But since the Internet and birth of the music blog, listening to college radio has become less relevant and less necessary to get new music. Part of the aim of the new website is to help WRMC to fulfill the role college radio has always been there to fulfill, [which is] to get out new music. Bolstering our online presence will allow us to combine music blogging with radio programming to bring people new music."

The decision to redesign the website was driven by a need to improve not only the functionality of the website but also its aesthetic.

"We are using the new website as part of a general rebranding effort for WRMC,"

said Turpan. "Not only have we redone the website but we've also redone the graphic identity of the station. We're trying to give WRMC a new face."

Sam Tolzmann '14 was commissioned to create hand-drawn elements and graphics to assist in the website's redesign.

"Drawing elements of the webpage keeps it WRMC-specific, and the drawings make it appealing to users new to our site by softening the edges of the visuals up a bit — they have a hint of a casual or fun feel where standard graphics would likely come off as austere," said Tolzmann of his artwork.

WRMC's new webpage has many new features that improve upon the old site, such as a history page, an integrated blog, a concert calendar and a calendar for live broadcasts of College sporting events. The website will also feature an alumni page with updates on alumni news and bands, as a part of WRMC's effort to better connect with its former student DJs and listeners.

"The concept of the website was to create a framework that would act to reorganize WRMC and reorient us to be an accessible and easy-to-use venue for the student voice on campus," said WRMC General Manager Dylan Redford '14.

All radio shows now have a webpage, which will include links to the DJs' blogs. The new website also houses recordings, including a new video series of concert recordings.

Turpan worked with administrators within Library and Information Services as

well as an external web design company in developing the site.

"The process started with conceiving what we wanted to do with this website. Then over the course of the summer I worked with the web designer and also a team of people involved in WRMC to hash out what the website looked like," said Turpan.

Turpan worked with an external web de-

sign company to finish the site towards the end of the summer, before turning the project over to Ian McBride, the College's senior software engineer. McBride has worked to create the website since September.

"In terms of time it needed an update — it felt a little outdated," said Turpan. "We were going for something that looked more new and sleek, something better designed and attentive to aesthetics."

The screenshot shows the WRMC website interface. At the top, it says "LISTEN NOW" with "High-Quality Low-Quality" options. Below that is the WRMC logo and "Middlebury College Radio 91.1 FM". A navigation bar includes "SCHEDULE", "MUSIC", "SPORTS", "NEWS", "CONCERTS", and "ABOUT". The main content area features "ON AIR" with "THE UNUSUAL SUSPECTS" section, listing DJs: EZERA MILLER-WALFISH, MADELEINE LI, and LINDSAY WARNE. Below this is a "SCHEDULE" section with a table of shows:

Time	Hosts
8:00-8:30 am	Parkie-Park and D-Way
8:30-9:00 am	Hit the Freeway
9:00-9:30 am	Porter Ziegler, David Ulmann
9:30-10:00 am	Damaraland
10:00-10:30 am	Spencer Egan, Joseph Leavenworth Blake
10:30-11:00 am	Pu Pu Platter
11:00-11:30 am	Veronica Metch, Dohyun Shin
11:30-12:00 pm	Oliver Jazz A Chance
12:00-12:30 pm	Ivan Zeavin-Moss

Below the schedule is a "BLOG" section with a photo of a DJ booth and a list of blog posts with titles like "Raw denim photo booth dreamcatcher leggings..." and "gluten-free tap + 1 umami..."

COURTESY OF WRMC

WRMC, the College's radio station, launches its newly designed website today.

Council vote to decide fate of Delta

CONTINUED FROM PAGE 1

had to follow are pretty ridiculous."

Residential Life Committee member and former Tavern president Zach Marlette '13 said that, even discounting errors of procedure, Delta has shown a lack of cooperation with Public Safety.

"Delta can't have people at the house — whether they're members or guests — that are disrespecting Public Safety," said Marlette. "It's all tied to the culture that they cultivate."

Additionally, the IHC handbook requires that a minimum of 80 percent of social house members complete hazing and sexual assault training, but Delta has not met this requirement. Battle explained that many members have neglected this duty because the majority of the organization is made up of varsity athletes, who are required to complete hazing and sexual assault training with their teammates, albeit with a different module. There is no system in place in which varsity athletes can be

waived from social house hazing and sexual assault training.

The Residential Life Committee reviewed all five social houses as part of a standard review process that happens every other year, alternating with a review of academic interest houses. The process begins with a questionnaire filled out by house leadership that serves to explain the house's role in the campus community.

According to Smith, this year, the College has streamlined this questionnaire and required only initial, brief meetings. If issues arise during that meeting, then the house is called back for a more thorough review.

Marlette said that Delta did not fully complete the initial questionnaire.

"It was very bare bones," said Marlette. "People on the committee really would have liked to see more incentive on behalf of Delta's leadership to show that they genuinely do care about trying to do better."

"Members of the committee seemed

put off by some of [Delta's] answers on the questionnaire and by [Battle's] responses during the meeting, particularly surrounding the issue of party registration," added Smith.

For next Tuesday's meeting, Marlette advises Delta to bring "all the resources" they have.

"Delta's really in the hole right now, and if they want to get out of this hole, then they need to show that they're going to do better and that there actually is a huge student contingency that wants them around," he said.

Marlette offered an alternative suggestion to Delta's current goal of gathering a petition with 1,000 signatures.

"It's going to make more of an impact if a bunch of students come to [Tuesday's meeting] and show, with stories or just with their presence, that they do care about this house and that they want it to stick around, rather than just a piece of paper," said Marlette.

"Aside from that, they just really need to address the things they messed up on," added Marlette.

Battle hopes to gather Delta members, IHC members, other social house members and teammates at the Community Council meeting to show support for Delta.

"We're going to try to address all their issues," said Battle.

Smith explained that Community Council will likely utilize an executive session — during which only Council members are present — for final discussion and voting.

"The most important part of this is coming to a fair decision but also respecting the process," said Smith. "I want to hear different voices from the community, but I also want to honor the work the Residential Life Committee has done."

While the vote is scheduled for Tuesday, given the gravity of the outcome, there is a distinct likelihood that the Council will extend the discussion and voting into additional meetings.

COLLEGE SHORTS

NEW
NEWS FROM ACROSS
THE NATION

Oberlin Cancels Classes After Hate Crimes

Classes were cancelled at Oberlin College on Monday, March 4 as a "Day of Solidarity" after a string of hateful vandalism incidents during the month of February. Incidents targeting LGBT, black and Jewish communities on campus were reported, the most recent incident being the sighting of a person in a Ku Klux Klan-style outfit on campus.

An all-student email sent to Oberlin students by the administration announced a suspension of formal classes and non-essential activities to "gather for a series of discussions of the challenging issues that have faced [the Oberlin] community in recent weeks."

Among the reported graffiti were Black History Month posters defaced with the n-word, swastikas found in the college's music conservatory building and racial slurs tacked to the school's LGBTQ Community Coordinator office.

In 2011, Oberlin was faced with a similar string of racist graffiti on campus but did not cancel classes.

— The Huffington Post

Secretary of Education Warns of Sequestration

The budget cuts that went into effect on March 1 could end financial aid for thousands of students and force the U.S. Department of Education to reduce payments to contractors that administer the federal student aid program, warned Secretary of Education Arne Duncan while speaking in front of Congress last week. In a hearing before the Senate Appropriations Committee, Duncan said that the "sequestration" — the across-the-board spending cuts that went into effect last Friday — may reduce the Federal Work Study program and Supplemental Education Opportunity grants by \$49 million and \$37 million, respectively, resulting in 33,000 fewer work-study awards and 71,000 fewer supplemental grants. Pell Grants would be exempt from the cuts this year, but would be vulnerable in future years. Duncan said the cuts would also result in layoffs within the department, which would cause delays in the awarding of aid and "significantly harm the department's ability to prevent fraud, waste and abuse in the very large, complex student-financial-assistance programs."

— Chronicle of Higher Education

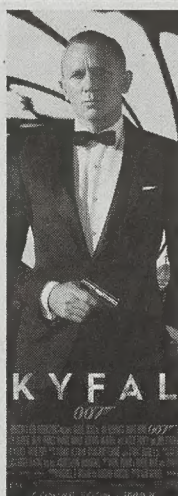
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Dancercise time!
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MCCULLOUGH SOCIAL SPACE

Timeflies tickets
Go on sale to the public on Monday. Don't forget to get yours before it's gone!
GO/BOXOFFICE



SGA UPDATE

SGA reviews honor code

By Will Schwartz

On Feb. 24, the Student Government Organization (SGA) held their weekly meeting. The Senate was informed that the "Merica Dance" held the Friday before the meeting had been fairly successful. Senators Graham Shaw '16 and Hasher Nisar '16 had led the efforts in promoting the event. At its peak, approximately 200 students were in attendance.

Every four years there is an honor code review at the College. There is a review this year, and Karen Guttentag, associate dean for judicial affairs and student life, came to the SGA meeting to discuss the findings of the honor code review committee that she has been leading.

"If there has been a central question for the Honor Code Review Committee this year, it has been, what recommendations can we make to ensure that each constituency — students, faculty and staff — is working in concert to actively and consistently promote an environment of academic integrity?" she said. Members of the committee and the SGA raised various concerns about academic

integrity at the College. The College does not feel that there is a cheating crisis at the moment, but many feel that the problem is still apparent here (although no more or less than national averages). The Honor Code was amended in between the two most recent reviews (the previous one having taken place during the 2008-2009 academic year), to allow professors to proctor exams when they feel it is necessary. A straw poll to approve the review would have passed unanimously if not for two abstentions from proxy representatives. SGA President Charlie Arnowitz '13 was happy to see the progress being made.

"Obviously the honor code is very important to both the academic and community experience here at Middlebury," he said.

On March 3, it was announced that the Feb Senator referendum had passed. Febs will no longer vote for, or be represented by commons or class senators. There will now be two Feb Senators. Elections for the new seat will be held on Monday, March 11.

Peter Mattson, SGA treasurer and fi-

nance committee chair, also presented the proposed finance committee guidelines to the SGA. Old Chapel has picked up many costs for club sports that would have crippled the SGA's budget. However, drastic changes did not have to be made due to the help of the administration. Club teams must actively fundraise for their spring break trips. Transportation reimbursements were planned to be cut significantly, and this was not popular among many senators. Senator Will Potter '14.5 was one of the leading voices of dissent.

"The finance committee guidelines should support transportation reimbursement that realizes the true cost of driving and maintaining a vehicle, while minimizing abuse of the system," he said. But not all on the SGA were in opposition to the transportation section.

"I'm glad that the Senate approved the overwhelming majority of the guidelines. With regard to the transit section, it was tabled because some senators were uncomfortable with the decrease in per-mile compensation," said Arnowitz.

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Vermont group pushes for GMO labeling



COURTESY OF CAT BUXTON

Jerry, of Ben & Jerry's, speaks last Thurs. of the company's plan to go GMO-free.

By Isaac Baker

On Thursday, Feb. 28, a group of 50 gathered at the American Legion in Middlebury, Vt. to connect with the Vermont Right to Know GMO coalition, a group that is campaigning to require the labeling of all food derived from genetically modified organisms (GMOs) in the state. Representatives from the Northeast Organic Farming Association (NOFA), Cedar Circle Farm, Rural Vermont and the Vermont Public Interest Group (VPIRG) joined other farmers, activists and cooperatives to host five forums across Vermont over the course of the week.

The talks are a continuation of the fierce debate that has been argued in U.S. courtrooms and dining rooms alike over the last two decades about the merits and the safety of GMOs.

Visiting Assistant Professor of Geography Kacy McKinney, who conducted much of her Master's and Doctoral research on GMOs and currently offers a class on the subject, gave a clear definition of GMOs during an interview with the Campus this past week.

"One way of defining GMOs is to distinguish between genetic engineering and classic hybrid technology ... With genetic engineering, we're now able to go across species in a way that hybridizing plants could never do," said McKinney. "We're changing the genetic structure, and altering it to include a gene from another species."

Despite this alteration, the FDA ruled in 1992 that GMOs were not substantively different from other food products and thus opened the floodgates. Today in the U.S., around 75 percent of processed foods are thought to be made with GMO products, while some specific crops like corn and soybeans — essential building blocks for processed foods and many other goods — are closer to 80 or 90 percent GMO.

The reason behind these Vermont forums is the bill H.112, which would require any product derived from GMOs being sold in Vermont to sport a label. After failing to make it to the floor last year, the bill has been reintroduced and has just passed out of the House Agricultural (Ag.) committee this past Friday. As the bill moves to the judiciary committee, supporters prepare with renewed vigor for another year of campaigning.

"The House Ag. committee worked for weeks on this," recalled Dave Rogers, a policy advisor for NOFA Vermont and a speaker at Thursday night's forum. "They came up with all these findings that say that 'yeah, there are significant concerns and that the federal government is not doing its job, namely the FDA.' They came to that conclusion after hearing diverse and wide-ranging testimony last year and they're back at it this year."

In its current condition, the bill requires the labeling of GMO products sold in Vermont and excludes dairy, livestock, food for immediate consumption and anything sold out of state. While these protocols were all present in the 2012 bill, there is one piece that was omitted in this year's legislation: the trigger clause.

"The question of whether or not there will be a trigger clause — that is that the bill would not go into effect until some number of other states passed similar legislation —

was being talked about today," said Rogers. "Last year there was a trigger clause."

Last year's clause stated that after the bill was passed, the law would only go into effect after California and two other states passed similar legislation. Given that California failed to pass its labeling referendum this past fall, however, it seems that Vermont will now have to move ahead of the pack if it wants to see labeling any time soon.

"Our position is no trigger clause," said Rogers. "There's a fair amount of anxiety about being first, particularly when the feelings are so high ... [But] if it's the right thing to do, it's the right thing to do."

This moral righteousness may carry some weight in the State House, but it has become clear that other concerns are more pressing, namely the question of constitutionality and the lawsuit that many predict would follow passing legislation of this kind.

Creators of these genetically modified products like Syngenta and Monsanto have a long history of success in the courtroom. In the 90's, Vermont passed an ambitious law requiring that milk produced from cows that had been given Monsanto's Bovine Growth Hormone (BST) be labeled. Monsanto, ranked among America's Fortune 500 companies, then sued the government over the law's relation to their product. Monsanto won, and has been diligently defending its corporate, first amendment rights ever since.

"The issue is compelled speech," said Rogers. "You are not allowed to force someone to say something that's not true; and in the view of Monsanto et al., a label would convey false information, or suggest that there's some difference that does not exist."

The Right to Know coalition has done a great deal of work with the Vermont Law School to draft legislation that will stand up in court against Monsanto's lawyers. Given that Monsanto's revenues last year (~\$12 billion) more than double the recently approved 2013 budget for Vermont, it's not hard to see why legislators would be hesitant to invite a lawsuit that is all but guaranteed to follow this legislation.

"I've been talking to staffers for Vermont legislators," said McKinney, "about how if this bill were to pass and labeling were to be put in place the state of Vermont will be sued by Monsanto. It's a question of what kinds of resources will Vermont lose, because they're the first state to pass a bill ... I just don't see how a tiny, wonderful state like Vermont has the potential to beat out a giant, multi-national corporation that dominates the life-sciences industry."

While the Right to Know coalition has been looking into ways for Vermonters to contribute to some kind of labeling defense fund, it is unclear as of yet if the state is will-

ing to take on this added financial burden, particularly in light of Hurricane Irene and the recent recession.

Katie Michaels '14.5, the student co-director of the College's organic garden and a member of McKinney's class, was among the handful of students present at Thursday's forum.

"The GMO forum was certainly an experience in grassroots organizing," said Michaels. "The audience was very enthusiastic about labeling GM products, and all seemed to share a mistrust of GM foods and the companies that create it."

Yet while those assembled represented a unified group, Michaels pointed out that the voices of those Vermonters currently reliant on GMO technology for their livelihood were entirely unrepresented, and perhaps not considered.

"I wish there had been a bit of discussion on any analysis Right to Know GMO's had done on the results of GMO labeling on the folks who currently grow GMO crops," said Michaels. "I just hope that appropriate infrastructure will accompany this effort to help those currently growing GMO crops transition towards non-GMO or perhaps even organic varieties."

Though labeling will not affect the majority of the state's largest GMO growers because it excludes the labeling of dairy products, it does still remain that Vermont's conventional farmers have yet to share in this labeling enthusiasm.

The lack of organizations like the Vermont Farm Bureau or the Vermont Dairy Industry Association — two lobbying groups for larger, conventional farmers — indicates a diversity of opinion on the matter, at least among the farming community.

"Vermont Farm Bureau, recognizing the importance of biotechnology to the future economic well being of the state, encourages funding effort to develop biotech industries," reads the farm Bureau's 2013 policy book. "We oppose placing prohibitions or undue restrictions on the development of biotechnology products which have been deemed safe and effective by appropriate regulatory agencies."

Though again, labeling would not technically require any shift in farmer-practices, "[many] see this as a backdoor way to ban GMOs," said Rogers.

"One of the interesting discourses," McKinney added, "is that farmers should have the right to choose ... It's a compelling argument. Farmers do all this work for us and they need to be able to profit, they need to be able to sustain themselves, and here's something that some believe might be able to help them to do so. It's hard to argue to keep it from them. I've written articles about the problematic nature of that

argument, but I still think it's compelling. If you're trying to avoid pests taking over your plants, why wouldn't you want that?"

On the other hand, labeling-supporters cite research indicating a correlation between GMO crops and the onset of pesticide-resistant bugs, land degradation and other environmental hazards.

"We don't know if they're good or bad," said Michaels, "but personally I don't think we should be screwing with organisms' DNA and then releasing them everywhere. We're just not that smart! We don't know what the ripple effects are going to be."

Part of the reason for our lack of information is related to the lifetime-ownership that companies hold over their biotechnologies.

"Recently, there have been studies finding that there's no problem with GMOs," said Rogers, "but the research has been conducted by the industry or by people funded by the industry."

The conflict of interests here is clear, but it could perhaps be overlooked if there were competing studies performed by independent researchers and universities. Yet not only have companies like Monsanto been able to prevent independent research, but they have also persuaded the FDA to use their studies when evaluating GMOs for market.

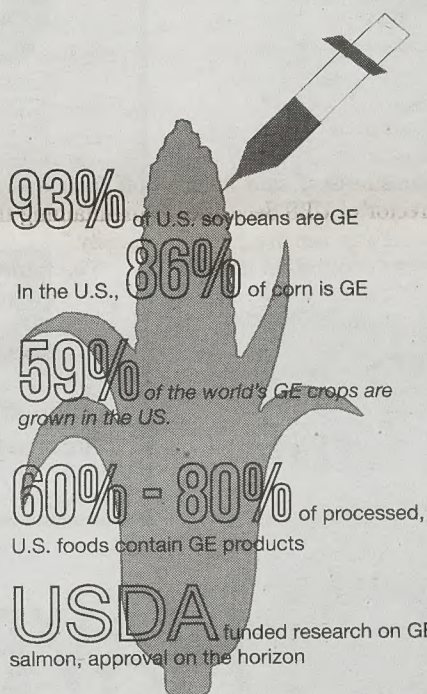
"Farmers have long bought seeds," said McKinney, "but in this case, they're buying seeds and signing a contract that says that they will not reuse, they will not share, they will not do any of the other things that they might do with seeds. They will plant them once, sell them off, and then buy again. I think that's the crux of what's different, that you are not allowed to experiment."

One food company with local ties that has decided not to bet on GMOs is Ben & Jerry's. In a recent press release that surprised many, the company announced its intention to make its ingredients 100 percent GMO-free by the end of 2013. The surprise came because the company was recently sold to Unilever, a British multinational food corporation that contributed over \$400,000 to anti-labeling campaigns in California this past year.

Though Jerry did make an appearance at Thursday's forum, his presentation was merely to express his support for the campaign and his delight that his old company — now completely outside of his control — is continuing its tradition of labeling and transparency. In the 90's, Ben and Jerry's made a point of labeling its products free of bovine growth hormones, and though Monsanto filed a lawsuit, the company has been able to keep that particular label.

"When you put all of this together," said Rogers, "I just say, this stuff is in 75 percent of the processed foods we're eating; people are getting it three times a day; there are legitimate concerns, unanswered questions and a lack of responsiveness; in this situation, labeling something seems perfectly reasonable."

The question for this year will be whether or not this campaign will be able to persuade legislators to take on the risk of labeling. While over a dozen other states are considering similar bills and referendums, none have passed anything yet, and it will be up to whoever goes first to take on American agribusiness in the courtroom.



COURTESY OF TWEEPEPUMPKINS.COM

Many U.S. farmers and industries rely on GMOs and worry about labeling push.

Vermont Yankee unveils plans to refuel

By Anna Stevens

On Wednesday Feb. 20 Vermont Yankee nuclear power plant released a statement saying that it will be conducting its 30th refueling since its opening in 1972. The refueling will happen this spring and require the plant to shut down for several weeks.

"[The refueling process] is basically a maintenance overhaul," said Vermont Yankee spokesman Rob Williams. "Almost every system gets some form of maintenance and/or testing inspection."

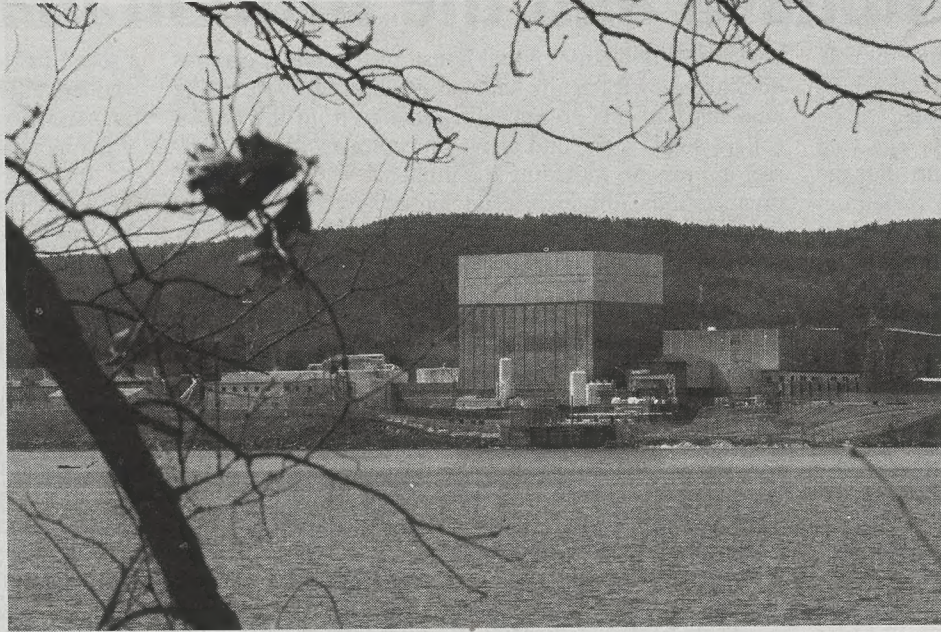
Nuclear reactors are refueled every 18 months, during which time about 1/3 of the fuel assemblies are replaced. It is a necessary measure taken to ensure that the plant has up-to-date technology and is inspected thoroughly. Additionally the refueling guarantees that the plant is able to operate for another 18 months.

Entergy's news about refueling Vermont Yankee shows their commitment to keeping the plant in full operation.

"This is a major business decision for [Entergy]," said Vermont State Representative Margaret Cheney from Norwich. "It shows that they expect to prevail in their various court battles."

Over the past year Entergy has been caught up in many legal battles both at the state and federal levels regarding the relicensing of the plant. Vermont Yankee was scheduled to close in March 2012, but before its closure it was granted a renewal on its license from the Nuclear Regulatory Committee, enabling it to run for an additional 20 years. Despite being granted this license, the state of Vermont requires Entergy to have a state permit — a certificate of public good (CPG) — in order to run. The Vermont state legislature blocked the state Public Service Board from granting the CPG on account of concerns about the age of the building and its ability to operate safely.

When Vermont Yankee was opened in 1972 it received a 40-year operating license. In the past decade the plant has shown signs of deterioration as leaking problems have concerned health officials about contamination of groundwater and the nearby Connecticut River. Furthermore there has been concern surrounding Vermont Yankee's spent fuel storage. With the spent fuel pool nearing capacity in 2012, Entergy applied for — and



COURTESY OF RADIO BOSTON

The Vermont Yankee plant has announced plans to refuel and continue operations.

was granted — a permit for dry-cask storage of spent fuel on site. Presently, close to all of Vermont Yankee's spent fuel is stored on site, either in the spent-fuel pool or dry-cask storage.

Concerns about the storage of nuclear waste and the age of the power plant moved residents of Vermont, New Hampshire and Massachusetts to protest the renewal of Vermont Yankee's license. In March 2012 over 1,000 protesters marched the 3.5 miles from Brattleboro, Vt. to the Entergy offices, brandishing signs and flags. Residents were not the only people unsettled by Vermont Yankee's plan to remain open.

In addition to the various legal issues facing Entergy, the company has also struggled financially. On Feb. 14 UBS Securities downgraded Entergy stock from "neutral" to "sell," alerting stockholders that Entergy was struggling financially.

"The change was primarily predicated on potential cuts to authorize returns on [Entergy's] southeast utility businesses," said Julien Dumoulin-Smith, director of UBS Securities Investment Research. "It was also in part due to our growing concerns around its nuclear portfolio, particularly given our expectation for negative cash flows from the Vermont Yankee plant."

Many residents in the state speculate as to how Vermont would get its power if Vermont Yankee closed, but what most do not realize is that Vermont Yankee only sells out of state.

"Vermont would not fall on its face if it did not get power from Vermont Yankee," said Cheney. "In fact, we have not been getting power from them since March 2012 when its contract expired. So for a year we have been getting power from other resources."

Regardless of these speculations regarding the future of Vermont Yankee and the various legal and financial setbacks Entergy is facing, the company remains committed to keeping Vermont Yankee operating at full capacity.

"Short-term gas prices in the electric market are challenging for us and other merchant nuclear plants," said Williams, Entergy's spokesman. "We are continuing to operate our plants as efficiently as possible, and are diligent about looking at every aspect off their operation, while at the same time maintaining the safety and integrity of each facility."

The future of Vermont Yankee remains undetermined, but at least in the short term it will remain running, much to the concern of the local populace.

Vermont animator takes home Oscar

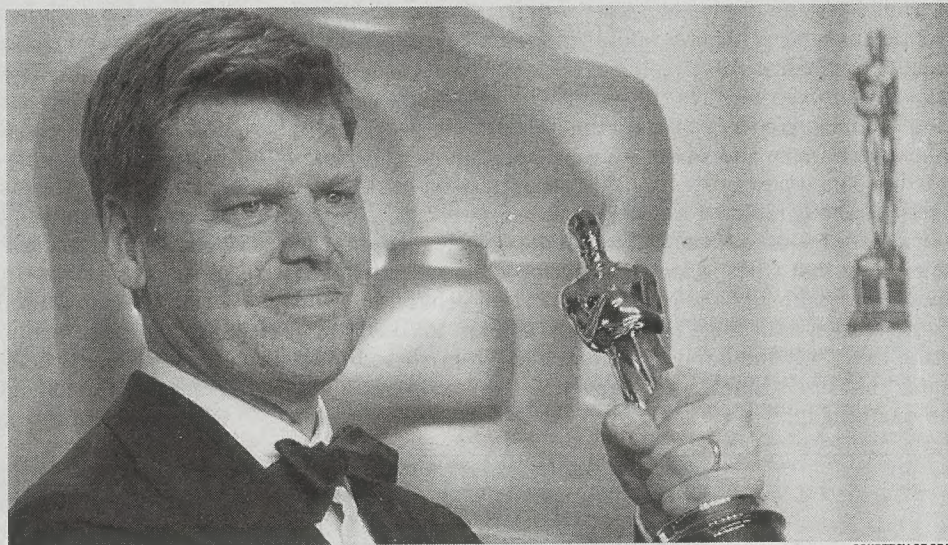
By Elaine Dellinger

As film-lovers and celebrity-followers alike settled in for the three-and-a-half hour Academy Awards ceremony last Sunday evening, big name actors and directors were on everyone's minds — from Quentin Tarantino to Daniel Day-Lewis to the lovable Jennifer Lawrence. However, by the end of the night, everyone who stayed tuned-in long enough had heard of John Kahrs, the director who won an Academy Award for Disney's short film "Paperman" and whom the *Addison County Independent* calls "Addison County's Academy Award Connection."

While he grew up in the Hudson River Valley in upstate New York, Kahrs spent his summers in Vermont; his parents, Helen and Ed Kahrs however, currently live in West Addison, so why not claim him for a "local boy makes it big" for Addison County this awards season?

Although Kahrs kept his acceptance speech brief, thanking the Academy, his team at Disney, his producer and his wife and kids, a backstage interview with Kahrs by reporter James Molnar allowed the director to speak at greater length about the breathtaking Disney animated short. The seven-minute film tells the story of a chance connection between strangers, a young man and woman commuting to work. Separated from the woman after the fated encounter, the young man spends the rest of the short trying desperately to catch her attention via paper airplanes, resulting in a somewhat predictable, but thoroughly satisfying Disney ending.

"My inspiration for 'Paperman' is basically as a commuter, and it's kind of



COURTESY OF CBC

Animator John Kahrs, whose parents live in West Addison, Vt. won an Oscar for his film.

chance connections you make with strangers and wonder who they are," said Kahrs. "I just had this idea of an urban fairytale about people who were perfect for each other but lost their connection."

"Paperman" is notable not only for its beautiful and simple storyline, but also for its innovative combination of old-school 2D animation and new CG technology.

"We took the kind of old 2D animation and the newer CG animation and put them together in a way that I think hasn't been seen before," said Kahrs. "But I think you know, what we did is take the drawn line and the expressiveness and the hand of the artist and bring it into the 21st century."

The return to traditional time-honored 2D animation (with a 21st century update) is complimented by the 1940's setting, the black-and-white color scheme

(with a significant splash of red lipstick), and an homage to the silent film with the short's wordless script.

"For me the idea of it having no words in it makes it extremely portable, that you can show it all around the world and it communicates," said Kahrs. "I think the best films to me are the ones that you can understand where the sound is turned off."

In his backstage interview Kahrs also took a moment to recognize his parents whom he had forgotten to thank in his acceptance speech.

"I forgot to thank my parents. What can I say? So mom and dad, thank you ... I've been trying to call them but they have a busy signal. When is the last time someone got a busy signal? They live way out in Vermont and there's more cows than people up there."

LOCAL LOWDOWN 24

Baked Potato Bar in Cornwall

Come to the Cornwall Congregational Church on Friday to enjoy a baked potato bar with a wide assortment of toppings. The event also features fruit kebabs, cookies and local cider for dessert. Admission \$5 per person, \$20 per family and proceeds benefit Habitat for Humanity of Addison County. For more info. call 802-452-2012.

MARCH 8, 5:30 P.M. - 7:30 P.M.

Swing Noire and the Bessette Quartet in Vergennes

"Swing" by the Vergennes Opera House live this Friday to enjoy Swing Noire's gypsy jazz and the Bessette Quartet's instrumental jazz and blues, featuring cabaret-style seating and a cash bar. Tickets \$15 each (\$25 per couple), at Classic Stitching, at 802-877-2412 or at the door.

The Middlebury Chili Festival

It's finally here. The day that has been marked on our calendars since last March — the one and only Middlebury Chili Festival. The fifth annual chili festival will feature chili from over 50 vendors, live music, street performers, face painting and a fully-stocked beverage tent. The best part? It's all \$5 (and children under 8 are free). Be there.

MARCH 9, 1:30 P.M. - 8:00 P.M.

Ukrainian Egg Painting

Looking for something to do before the chili festival? Join artist Theresa Somers of Essex Junction as she uses the wax-resistance method to create elaborately decorated eggs. Free and family-friendly. For more information call 802-453-4032 or info@artonmain.net.

MARCH 9, 11 A.M. - 1 P.M.

Open Barn in Weybridge

Struggling to bring your heart rate down after chili festival? Come to Duclos and Thompson Farm on Sheep Farm Road off Route 23 to enjoy the company of more than 200 beautiful lambs. The event is a great event for kids and adults alike. This year will be the 30th annual open barn!

MARCH 10, 12 P.M. - 5 P.M.

Green Mountain Cross-Country Ski Outing in Ripton

Join Vermont's cross-country skiers at the Rikert Nordic center for a scenic ski outing that will take approximately 2 hours. The route will depend on the skills and interests of the group. Trail passes are \$17 for adults. Contact B. Ellis for meeting time: at 802-388-0936.

MARCH 10, TIME TBA

"Our Guns, Our Towns, Our Questions" Public Forum in Middlebury

Listen in at the Champlain Valley Unitarian Universalist Society as VPR's Jane Lindholm moderates this panel discussion on guns, their uses and their regulation in Vermont. Panelists include Vermont Fish and Wildlife Commissioner Patrick Berry, and other senior officials involved in wildlife management.

MARCH 11, 7 P.M. - 9 P.M.

OPINIONS

The Middlebury Campus

Social houses and the truth in marketing

EDITORIAL

The editorial represents the official opinion of *The Middlebury Campus* as decided by the editorial board.

plain lacks excitement and variety. It also highlights the gap between the public face that the College puts forward and the reality that many students experience.

The College proudly bills itself to prospective students

— in both its promotional materials and in every information session — as a Greek-free social scene, but neglects to acknowledge the commonalities

between Middlebury's social house system and a campus dominated by fraternity and sorority life. Many incoming students find this an appealing change from the typical college social scene and arrive on campus with an incorrect impression regarding the influence of Greek-derived organizations. Although social houses lack the intensity of fraternities and sororities at other schools, the five College-sanctioned social houses form the backbone of the weekend party scene here on campus. The main distinction is that the College owns the houses that these organizations inhabit, which provides it with a greater level of control over the way that they operate.

This gap between the way that the College markets itself and reality may be jarring to some admitted students, who come here hoping to avoid the drama and expectations sometimes associated with Greek life at other colleges and instead find themselves pulled inexorably into a scene that the administration does their best to obscure through euphemisms. Some of these alternative terms have an awkward Orwellian feel: rush becomes recruitment, pledge becomes education and initiation becomes appreciation. But changing their name does not change their meaning.

For many students, though, social houses end up providing far more than simply a place to drink and dance in a crowded basement. They provide an alternative outlet for community that many take advantage of — particularly people who feel left out of the commons system. New Febs, in particular, often arrive with little support from that oft-promoted system, and without the experience of living on

a social hall of their peers. To these students and others who feel alienated throughout the cold, dark days of winter, social organizations provide a sense of community and of family unique to the College.

It would be naïve to assume that disbanding one of these options means that students won't still seek out the experiences that they would have had in joining. It is obvious from the large number of unregistered social organizations on this campus that demand for membership in groups bound by history and tradition continues unabated, even when removed from the strict rules for membership, requirements of social events and oversight on the recruitment and admission phases that the College imposes. The ability to participate in these groups — which many students consider one of the most significant aspects of their college experience — outweighs even the risk of recriminations that their members face.

Like any organization, social houses should obey the rules laid out for them. But we must not forget that they provide a necessary function to campus life. For members, they provide a sense of community that they might not receive elsewhere. For nonmembers, they provide a place to have fun on a weekend night. We are an extremely isolated school. It's time to own up to the fact that social houses play an important role; that students here — as at our peer institutions — still yearn for a deeper connection than that found on their hallway, in their class or in their weekly club meeting. Forcing students underground will accomplish little more than to broaden the gulf between our marketing materials and the reality of our college experience.

The Middlebury Campus

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Middlebury, je t'ehhh...

"After living in a big city and growing so much, it's hard to shrink back down to fit into Middlebury to adjust back to all this stuff," a friend who had recently returned from a semester-abroad-in-a-major-European-cultural-and-historical-urban-environment said to me in an Atwater stairwell on a recent Saturday night.

I can't say that I disagree with her. I spent my fall semester in Paris, and while it was turbulent at best (ask me about my homestay!) and I suffered from debilitating Midd FOMO (fear of missing out), coming back here has been harder than I thought it would be. More than anything else, returning to this lil' slice of bucolic heavenly pie has made me aware of everything we take for granted.

In Paris, there were days when I wouldn't speak to anyone. There were days when I wouldn't interact with anyone my age. Studying abroad was lonely and isolating, but it was an incredible learning experience and it allowed for personal growth that, for better or for worse, I likely would not have achieved any other way.

Whether we realize it or not, Middlebury does almost everything for us. We are given three all-you-can-eat buffets each day, plus DIY paninis, salads and, more recently, stir-fry. We are provided with an academic framework that gives us the freedom to take the classes that we want, choosing a courseload that can range in difficulty from second-semester-senior-special-student-snoozin'-through-lectures to five-classes-plus-labs-and-discussion-sections. We have a library full of books that we can browse when we want to and where we want to, without going through a tedious interview process to gain access to said books (ask me about the BNF, too!).

This range of options with which the College provides us was something that I desperately longed for while in Paris, but was somehow unable to handle once back at Middlebury. In trying to figure out what message I wanted this column to convey (something like, "pity me because coming back from abroad is really hard," but less whiney), I realized why I've been having a hard time settling in.

Studying abroad in Paris gave me a glimpse of what post-graduate, post-Middlebury life will be like. I could go out to dinner to a fancy restaurant on a Tuesday night, and then hit up my favorite hole-in-the-wall dumpling joint on Wednesday. Within the structure that was laid out for me by my classes and internship abroad, I was able to live how I wanted, independently and on my own terms. Middlebury gives us options and the resources to take advantage of those options. The real world just gives us options.

While I've already returned to my pre-abroad lifestyle as a lib dweller and Proctor lingerer, being at Middlebury is different now. I certainly love and appreciate the protective bubble that we're all a part of, but I can't let go of the self-sufficiency and independence I developed while living in a foreign city with fewer friends than fingers on my right hand.

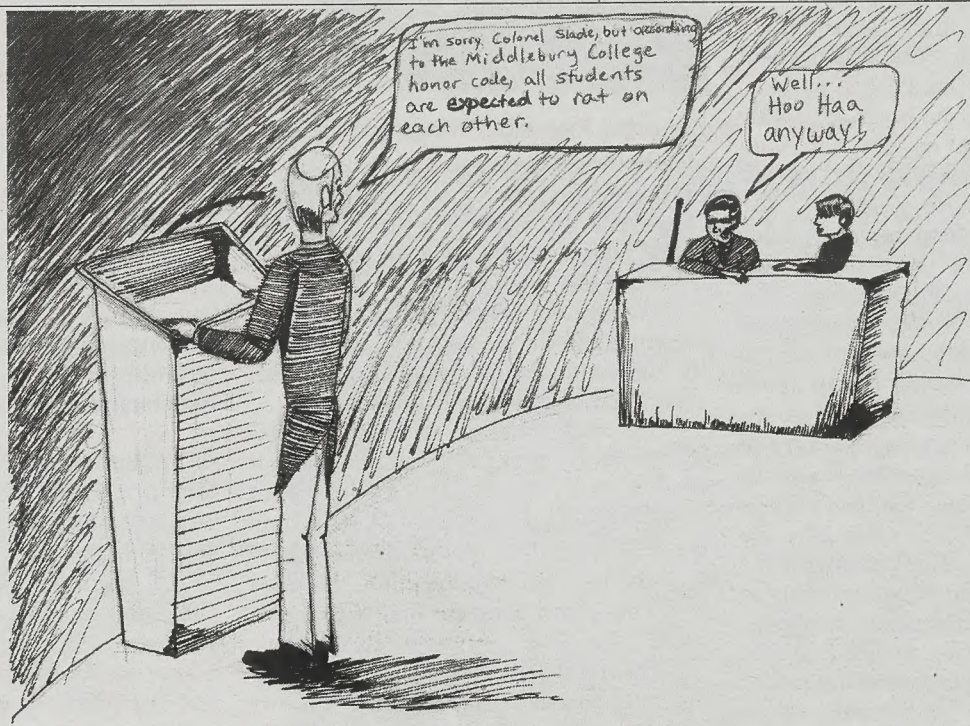
I'm still trying to figure out what to make of my experiences abroad and how to apply them to life at Middlebury, and I probably will be for a while. I appreciate the protection, security and guidance that we have on campus just as much as I appreciate the freedom of city living. One is not better than the other.

At the end of the day, though, Middlebury is nothing, nothing, nothing, nothing like the real world. After all, we call it a bubble for a reason. There are no open containers or alcohol citations in the real world. You have to make more of an effort to meet people and have a social life. You have to cook, and doing laundry usually costs more than \$1.25, and parking tickets cost more than \$50, and going to the gym doesn't just naturally happen at 4:30 p.m., and doctors will finally prescribe you something other than a sinus rinse, and Bean Boots might not be socially acceptable anymore and when you talk about dunkaroos, people will think of snack food, not buckets of ice cold water.

Middlebury holds our hand, and that's great. But if living in France and then coming back here has taught me one thing, it's that I'll be screwed once graduation rolls around.

NOTES FROM THE DESK

Emily Singer '14 is an online editor from Harrison, N.Y.



BY DYLAN LEVY

Put it in my backyard

My last column talked about divestment — how I believe that it has powerful symbolic value but that it must not be used as a substitute for personal or community-level changes that would directly reduce the amount of carbon emissions for which we are responsible. Although I appreciate Hannah Bristol '14.5's response, I can't help but feel as though she missed the point entirely. Tellingly, she does not offer a single solution to climate change beyond talking to "folks." At this point, education is not enough.

I am fully and painfully aware that we cannot solve global climate change

APPLY LIBERALLY

Zach Drennen '13.5 is an opinions editor from Canandaigua, N.Y.

by turning off our lights. But we also must not forget that those choices do have value. When I drive from my apartment downtown to Proctor dining hall in the morning, or crank up the air conditioning on a hot day or fly halfway around the globe to Australia, I am contributing to the problem of climate change by releasing greenhouse gasses into the atmosphere and increasing the demand for fossil fuels. That round-trip flight alone sent more carbon aloft than the annual car use of entire American families. Such choices should hardly be dismissed as trivial; to do so feeds into the gloomy fallacy that we are helpless against global warming.

I worry about the push for divestment or the protests against the Keystone pipeline not because they don't have value, but because in these causes I see an unwillingness to accept personal responsibility for climate change. It's not enough to point at others and cry "stop tempting me with this sweet, sweet gasoline." Oil and coal companies are not forcing us to buy product that we do not want. I am the cause of climate change. You are the cause of climate change. Al Gore and George W. Bush, Bill McKibben and Rex Tillerson are all the cause of climate change.

The only way to break that cycle is to accept that the problem begins in our backyards. The iron grip of fossil fuels on the business of powering, heating and moving the population will only be broken by making the alternatives cheap and available. Instead, I see a national movement of environmental activists obsessed with negative action. William F. Buckley once said that conservatism means stand-

ing athwart history yelling "stop." That's a strategy bound to lose without clear alternatives. It failed to stop the implementation of healthcare. It's failing to prevent marriage equality from spreading across the country. But it seems to me as though modern environmentalism has fallen into this same doomed strategy of screaming "halt" at the world around it.

In the meantime, Vermont is currently debating a bill to ban the construction of wind farms in a state high on outrage but short on alternatives. The Green Mountain State produces less of its electricity from wind and solar than states from North Dakota to Texas, and we have heard barely a peep from those who profess to truly care about climate change.

I know how much easier it is to oppose things than to build up the other options; I spent most of the fall election cycle endlessly mocking Mitt Romney. Creation is much more difficult than moral outrage. It requires far more time, money and energy. But when a patient has heart disease, it's not enough to tell him or her to simply stop eating, smoking and drinking. To survive, he or she will need to replace steak with salad and smoking with exercise. Without substitutes, stopping bad habits would still be fatal.

This is how to beat climate change: couple cries for divestment with a push for investment in small business solar companies or startups that aim to scrub carbon from the atmosphere. Oppose methods of fossil fuel extraction that cause excessive harm to the environment, but at the same time, encourage research in zero-emission vehicles so that there is no market for those fuels. We are the majority. It's time to stop acting like the opposition.

It's time to put solar panels on our roofs, wind turbines behind our homes and hydrogen powered cars in our garages. It's time to plant more trees and consider seeding the oceans with iron, locking away carbon dioxide in algal blooms. That's the type of movement we need: campuses and communities, cities and states, deciding to do things differently — not to complain, but to build and not only to divest but also to invest. The amount of money at this institution could do an incredible amount of good invested in companies like Solar Mosaic or First Wind. All of these projects will need to be in somebody's backyard. You're welcome to start with mine. Can we have yours, too?

SEQUESTRATION 101

Last Friday, President Obama began the gradual enactment of the long-dreaded "sequester," a series of budget cuts that will cut funding from nearly every American government agency. Nearly everyone seems certain that in failing to avoid this "last resort," bipartisanship has yet again proved itself more of an ideal than a practice, and yet the bipartisan "failure" to avoid the sequester seems to be surrounded by uncertainty. From Senator Harry Reid to Speaker of the House John Boehner, the only visible bipartisanship in Washington D.C. takes the form of frustrated confusion over what aspects of American politics the sequester will compromise. It seems that the deal, part of the Budget Control Act approved as a last resort by President Obama in 2011, has been so overhyped by politicians that nobody can give any definite answers over what the "drastic" cuts will affect. Or whether or not they will drastically affect anything at all.

The sequester is set to cut government spending by \$1.2 trillion over the next eight years, with \$85 billion in spending cuts during the remainder of this year. These budget cuts are divided equally between the American domestic and defense budgets, and are spread among nearly every government agency or provision, from national security to scientific research to

unemployment benefits. While a few specific areas of government spending are protected from cuts, including Social Security, Medicaid and veterans' benefits, the sequester basically aims to ensure that necessary budget cuts occur even while our politicians cannot agree on where.

Over the last year, Democratic (and, to a lesser extent, Republican) politicians have spoken of the feared sequester with increasing anxiety in an attempt to pressure Congress and the Senate to reach a bipartisan compromise. But while Obama and his allies have spoken repeatedly of the "widespread devastation" which the "Republicans, in refusing to negotiate, ensure," is this sequester really as terrifying as Obama would let us believe?

While Republicans are currently being ridiculed and attacked for refusing compromise with the president to avoid the sequester, a compromise with Obama would have led merely to more specific but

less drastic budget cuts, more tax hikes and more accommodations for liberal reform. By slashing government funding across the board, Republicans will have again succeeded in reducing government size and spending. And, more importantly for our country, by allowing the sequester to pass as a "last resort," Republicans

will avoid full responsibility for the proposed \$550 billion to be cut from defense spending. Nearly every American politician understands that American military spending must be streamlined and reigned in, but campaigning for military budget cuts remains politically suicidal. So the sequester is not some terrifying example of bipartisanship's failure; it's a triumph for fiscal conservatism. The broad and all-encompassing cuts outlined in the sequester, while perhaps ill-advised, are necessary when our country is \$16.6 billion in debt, and, in the words of Representative Bill Frenzel, "a bad sequester is worlds better than no budget deal at all."

We should not let Democratic politicians and dramatic media headlines fool

"As we dig ourselves deeper into nearly \$17 trillion of national debt, we need drastic budget cuts, and I would venture to say that in two years, this sequester will be viewed as 'not good enough' rather than 'too extreme.'"

us into being distressed over a budget cut of 2.2 percent to our \$3.8 trillion budget. Indeed, the budget cuts outlined by the sequester deal allow the defense budget and other government agency spending to increase, just not as quickly. Even with sequestration in effect, the 2013 budget will still exceed the 2012 budget by \$15 billion, and if I remember correctly, our nation did not collapse into chaos last year, despite Mayan predictions. While the budget cuts outlined in the sequester deal will certainly have far-reaching effects, they are neither drastic nor devastating, and they will strengthen our society and economy by reeling in our government's uninhibited spending. As we dig ourselves deeper into nearly \$17 trillion of national debt, we need drastic budget cuts, and I would venture to say that in two years, this sequester will be viewed as "not good enough" rather than "too extreme."

THE ELEPHANT IN THE ROOM

Ben Kinney '15 is from Seattle, Wash.

The privilege of discomfort

I have grown to appreciate and accept Middlebury as the college that I attend. Daily we engage in dialogue surrounding identity. But many of these discussions are empty, one-dimensional and do not engage concepts of intersectionalities and larger societal structures that may influence one's identity. We make assumptions about how people identify themselves and what that means for who they are as people and who they represent politically.

As a black woman who identifies as a womanist, I was a bit floored reading Nathan Weil's op-ed for the *Campus* last week, "A Call for a More Inclusive Movement." A lot of his article seems to talk about being made to feel uncomfortable in particular spaces and particular discourses around campus. While I would like to commend Nathan for his contribution to the *Campus*, I would also like to challenge him, and those who "amen" along with his piece, to consider a few points.

Spaces are marked. They typically are not explicitly marked, but they are marked nonetheless. It just so happens that many of the spaces at Middlebury College — like the rest of the country — are marked "straight, white and male." This isn't necessarily by the fault of straight, white men that attend this institution, but symptomatic of larger oppressive social structures that exist on this campus. I challenge Nathan to think about that when he writes about the five women in his econ class. I doubt Sam Kaufman's op-ed about feminism or even feminist activism on campus is the reason for lack of diversity in your econ classrooms. I do not think there is a "false and manufactured perception of discrimination [that] sits like a dark cloud over the department." Maybe there is something about that particular economics class that marks that space as male as well as white. Maybe there are particular microaggressions hidden in the discourse and the literature that would make people that are not male and white feel marginalized and uncomfortable. Maybe because of the lack of diversity in the class people feel as though their identities may be Orientalized or they may be forced to speak for the entire race, gender, sexuality, ethnicity, socioeconomic group and so on and so forth.

It is very easy to dismiss or overlook things that may make others feel uncom-

fortable when you are not a part of their group. As a male, it may be hard for you to recognize something that may be oppressive to women if it is not explicitly stated. As someone who is white, it might be hard for you to recognize if something is discriminatory or oppressive to people of color. And this is not your fault. You happen to live in a country where your race and gender are "unmarked" and "unmentioned" as integral parts of your identity. This is why many people start to feel uneasiness when whiteness and maleness becomes marked in discourse.

I want to challenge you to take pride in your discomfort, for it is a privilege and not a burden. For these four years that you attend Middlebury College, people will make you think about yourself before entering certain spaces. You will hear discussion and debate surrounding the factors that make up your identity and self-hood. This discomfort is something that some of us on this campus will have to deal with from the time we are born till the day we die. This discomfort extends well beyond the institution of Middlebury, and into larger oppressive institutions in this country and around the world. If you can bask in this discomfort you will be able to navigate spaces and begin to recognize marginalization, Orientalization and discrimination of particular people, and you will have the power to help make these spaces less oppressive.

I would like to apologize if you have felt that you are not welcomed into discourses of feminism or equality for all people. Do not feel that you "cannot join most of the liberal activist movements on this campus." Feminism is about fighting patriarchy, not men. People who fight for racial and ethnic equality fight systematic racism, not white people. People who fight homophobia fight oppressive systems and oppressive people, not people who are allies.

Personally, I would love to see you and more people like you at meetings and rallies around these issues. If you are in favor of dismantling systems of oppression, I think there are many groups on this campus that would welcome you with open arms. I hope you and many of the students on this campus that feel the way you do can open their hearts and minds to discomfort, and begin to use the privileges that you have been granted as tools to help disable oppressive systems rather than sit back with your hands in the air yelling "what do you want me to do about it."

"Feminism is about fighting patriarchy, not men. People who fight for racial and ethnic equality fight systematic racism, not white people."

READER OP-ED

Day Williams '14.5 is from Trenton, N.J.

TEDx: real people, unreal stories

This Saturday, Middlebury is hosting probably the coolest event of the year. Not Middlebury running of the bulls. Not Middlebury cheese-tossing. Not Middlebury cage matches (if only). Not Bill Clinton coming to speak, or Michael Jordan or Lance Armstrong (too soon?). Middlebury will have speakers, but none of them will have billion-dollar names or billion-dollar paychecks. But that's the point, and that's the beauty of it. This Saturday, Middlebury will be hosting its very own TEDx conference.

TEDx is a fascinating cultural phenomenon, a distinctly 21st century manifestation of contemporary man's combination of an insatiable thirst for knowledge and a 20-minute attention span. Allow me to explain.

TED is a relatively new organization that searches for ordinary people with extraordinary stories to tell, from shark fights to squirrel-suit flights to champions of civil rights and everything in between. Presenters give 18-minute speeches, long enough to have meat on their bones but not long enough to get stale. TED Talks, the original entity, has existed for 26 years and hosted thousands of speakers. TEDx (the "x" meaning it's independent of the larger TED brand) is a recreation of TED Talks. TEDx is an event organized by Middlebury students that will bring people with interesting stories to the community.

TEDx can exist because TED, the original, is such a wildly educational and incredible organization — so I'm going to pontificate a bit on why TED is so valuable. First, I'm going to tell you why we needed something like TEDx so badly.

After the Internet came about, we were inundated with stories. But there have been too many apocryphal tales of incredible virtue and goodness that fell apart like a house of cards or, perhaps more appropriately, like Greg Mortensen, the scumbag of *Three Cups of Tea* fame, for us to believe them any more. In a few short years, we have gone from believing all of them to believing none of them. From Mortensen to John Edwards to Lance Armstrong to Manti Te'o to Lindsay Lohan, we learn over and over again that those who we deify don't deserve it, that they are mortal and eminently fallible; indeed, with the heaps of pressure we pile upon them, they are almost destined to fail. In the last decade, Americans have gone from trusting everyone to trusting no one.

And so every time we see a model's picture in a magazine, we assume it is photo-shopped. Every time we see an athlete on a field, we assume his blood is pumping with an avaricious combination of greed and performance-enhancing drugs. Every time we see a politician on a podium, we assume he or she wants to control people rather than to help

people. The reason we feel so comfortable being jaded and cynical is that too many times, we have been proven right. We don't know whom to believe any more. We don't know whether we need just to choose our heroes better, or whether to dismiss the whole idea of "hero."

Concomitant with our celebrities being brought forcibly back down to earth, normal people have been elevated. Through YouTube, blogs, Tumblr and Twitter, we can hear almost every person's voice. But when everyone is shouting, to whom do you listen? Who can you even hear? With so many thousands of millions of billions of bytes of information out there, I always feel utterly overwhelmed and outnumbered by the cacophony, like a single lit match in a snowstorm or a non-cheater in baseball (sorry. Had to). I never know how to sort through the oodles of information out there to find the meaningful stuff. Luckily, TED came along.

TED finds special people, vets them, fact-checks them and brings their stories to us in tight, concise 18-minute talks that are free and accessible to anyone who can work a computer. We can see the best of the Internet, ostensibly reflective of the best in the world, and for the first time we don't have to deify anyone in order to hear, respect and value their story. We don't have to elevate them above the level of human, only to force them back down later on. We can simply listen, appreciate and enjoy.

And Middlebury has organized its own TED event, with its own interesting speakers with their own fascinating stories. I'll avoid enumerating their virtues, as I'm sure there's a feature on them elsewhere in the *Campus* — but suffice it to say that Middlebury TEDx is reflective of TED's goals, and in my opinion should live up to them on Saturday, March 9.

Not only do we have the opportunity to hear their speeches, but from 5:30 – 7 p.m. on Friday, March 8 at Palmer we have the opportunity to meet, chat and even, to use the dreaded corporate buzzword I can't go anywhere on campus without hearing (no, not synergy), "network" with them. Palmer House, the "Creativity and Innovation" house, is hosting a mixer with the TEDx speakers, TEDx organizers and the campus at large. You, dear reader, will have the chance to meet the TEDx speakers and bask in their infinite glory while also basking in the glory of delicious hors d'oeuvre's and drinks for those of age.

So the night before the full show, come to Palmer House and bask away. Even bring your absolutely positively real Internet girlfriend. We'll be waiting with the drinks.

RED'S RANT

Caleb Cunningham
'14 is from Boulder, Colo.

"We don't know whom to believe anymore. We don't know whether we need just to choose our heroes better or whether to dismiss the whole idea of 'hero.'"

AN INCIDENT IN THE ROSS DINING HALL

At 5:15 p.m. on Sunday, March 3, I walked into Ross Dining Hall to grab an early dinner. The line was already relatively long, and as I waited, several guys lined up after me. They were all wearing hats, and some of them were wearing sport coats and dress pants. Their

READER OP-ED

Wenbo Zhang '13 is from Vancouver, Canada

conversation soon caught my attention, as they were debating whether or not to join their friends earlier in the line to avoid the wait. One of them moved first, going up to the front of the line to have a chat with a friend and then conveniently joining him. The rest of the pack soon followed, though not before one of them threw a handful of mixed greens from the salad bar into a saucepot.

I was fuming at this point. Cutting the line was rude enough, but ruining an entire pot of sauce was an utter disrespect to both the dining hall staff and to other students!

The first thought that sprung to my mind was that they were not Middlebury students. I felt an urge to ask them for their IDs, but I realized that I lacked the formal authority to do anything. There was no way to figure it out. I looked around, and all the other students remained silent. Perhaps, I thought, I was overreacting.

However, the gang did not stop their disturbance. They soon gathered around a long table and began jeering and yelling. Their raucous voices filled the dining hall and ruined my dining experience. By then I figured that they must be Middlebury students to be so openly obnoxious. I later learned that they were hockey players (at least some of them were).

A million thoughts ran through my mind. Should I confront them? Should I call Public Safety? Should I just sit there and tolerate their behavior? I wasn't sure what to do.

I wasn't sure what to do because I

don't know how others feel about such behavior. I wasn't sure what to do because nobody went up to them and told them to be quiet. I don't know if other Middlebury students think that it's stupid to take such things seriously, and I was worried that going up to a gang of bros would result in nothing but humiliation. I also didn't know if such an incident would be worth the time of Public Safety.

As I was hesitating, three Public Safety officers arrived on the scene. I quickly walked up to the officers, told them what I saw and identified the remaining members of the group. I was so proud of the person who called them! He or she did something that I hesitated to do.

"Knowledge may be the primary component of an education at an elite institution like Middlebury, but manners and the ability to conduct oneself with grace are also important."

While the behavior of these hockey players was tolerable to many Middlebury students, it was not to me. I am glad that I wasn't alone in this.

Silent consent to their behavior will only encourage them to cut in line, contaminate the food and cause disturbance again in the future. I am ashamed of those hockey players for behaving in such an un-Middlebury way.

Knowledge may be the primary component of an education at an elite institution like Middlebury, but manners and the ability to conduct oneself with grace are also important. College is a time when we all make mistakes, and I think we can all look to the past and point out something we could have handled better. Even the highest-ranked leaders in our government can say the same. Take, for example, former President George W. Bush, who did similar stupid things when he was at Yale (see his Decision Points). However, that does not mean we should overlook such things when they happen or that these students should not apologize for what they have done. I sincerely hope that they can stop tarnishing the image of Middlebury athletes — and that none of them will become a future President of the United States.

Chivalry is not dead yet

"Did you see what he did last night?"

"I know, what was he thinking?"

"Did he think she would get with him for doing that?" What did he do?

He walked her home.

"Huh?" was my only response to overhearing this one Sunday morning. It may have bothered me less if it wasn't me they were talking about. Why did it bother me at all? Had I done something wrong? Was I wrong to walk my female friend home? I can say with full certainty that I walked her to her door, said "Good-bye," walked home, and went to bed. What is wrong with that? Shouldn't that be expected?

A few months and a few more weekends later I think I begin to understand. Like a lot of us here I grew up in an upper-middle class neighborhood, went to a private school — all that stuff. I did grow up in a city though — a safe city, but still a city. From that, I think, I have this inner paranoia, which has yet to evaporate even now that I have entered the Middlebury Bubble.

Flashback. A 16-year-old me standing sheepishly in the kitchen facing the whirling 5'4" Italian-American rage of my mother:

"What do you mean you didn't bring her home! What, are you stupid? You know what could have happened!"

"Mom, relax —"

"Don't you tell me to relax." She rounds on me with a wooden spoon, held out like a sword. "You bring her home next time."

This exchange was filled with a number of expletives, many of which were in Italian. The girl in question was my friend from down the street. My mother's rage stuck with me though and I never again let her, or any other friend go home alone. Although my mother stands a foot shorter than me, she is still the scariest person I have ever known.

She had a point though. It wasn't some misplaced sense of chivalry she was trying to instill in me; she knew the very real dangers of a weekend night in the city, and the more I thought about it, the more I knew it. I had a close friend held up at gunpoint and several

more mugged. There was even a kid a few years older that was stabbed in the chest with a pair of scissors, two inches below the heart, that punctured a lung.

So yes, my mother may have been right. To this day, I think my paranoia is still a little justified. We all take for granted the "safety" of Middlebury. I have a hard time truly believing it. In the dark basements of social houses as much as I may try to drown my inhibitions in alcohol and loud music, I can't. Too many people I don't know, too many people I can't see, too many mixed signals and intentions. It ends up being stressful.

Yet this stigma remains, surrounding what appears to be the simple act of walking a friend of the opposite gender home. I struggle to figure out why exactly this is. I certainly understand a woman's hesitation to be alone with a man when drinking has been involved, even if it is something as trivial as a walk home.

To that degree I would have to think it best that I only offered for my close friends, people with whom I had already established a foundation of trust. Even then it is always best to let a group of people know exactly what you were doing or to go with a group, simply to minimize the stigma and hopefully increase the safety of everyone involved.

Now my "chivalry" (or paranoia) may seem outdated and if there is anything Middlebury has taught me, it is that women are often more capable than me.

Yet I struggle to shake the feeling even within our cozy "Midd-bubble." So yes, I walked my friend home and didn't think anything of it. I find it absurd that seeing a friend safely home should be associated with ulterior motives, even if in some cases it is. I'm aware of it, and no matter what people say the next morning, I'll ask, "Can I walk you home?"

THE UNPOPULAR OPINION

Andrew DeFalco
'15 is from Toronto, Canada

Hot and cold

"It's getting hot in here so take off all your clothes."

The above lyric is not only a line from rapper Nelly's hit song "Hot in Herre," but it also seems to be the Midd Kid's anthem once the weather starts to warm up.

READER OP-ED

Diku Rogers '16 is from Brooklyn, N.Y.

Last Thursday, I noticed that it was unusually warm. My body had become accustomed to negative degrees and frostbitten hands. I figured in five minutes the warmth would pass, the clouds would again cover the sun and the bipolar snow/hail/sleet storms would continue. But an hour later it was even warmer! I could not believe it, so I checked my phone — low and behold, it was 45 degrees. The first thought that came to mind was, "thank you global warming" (sorry environmentalists).

My stroll through campus was all of sudden much jollier, and with a pep in my step, I hummed as the snow melted around me (not really). On my way to At-water dining hall (totally forgetting that I had Language Tables), I saw something I just couldn't fathom. A girl was casually walking in mid-thigh shorts and flats. It couldn't be! Shorts! Being raised by a West-Indian woman who thought winter was the season of the devil (go figure), I could not even think about wearing shorts until it at least broke 65.

I was baffled by this girl's courage to bare skin in weather that could change in literally five minutes. I myself had forgotten what my feet looked like without fuzzy socks and duck boots on. I can't even remember the last day I didn't have a scarf wrapped around my neck. I even

forgot what it looked like to see the sun in the sky. I could not believe that this girl exposed her knees to the world in February!

After the initial shock from seeing shorts subsided, I asked myself "what is life anymore?" I go to a school where people think 45 degrees is summer. I heard the other day that apparently it snows sometimes in May. I wondered what the weather gods had against Middlebury. If only the state of Vermont was able to bribe them with Ben & Jerry's for a day without snow that turns into ice.

Although I am only a first-year, I have the feeling that Midd students create a great tolerance for cold weather.

What other school has kids that can walk around in single-digit weather with just a North Face fleece on? Well, probably any school in the coldest regions of the U.S. People from Minnesota never let you forget that they are from Minnesota and

that 20 degrees for them is "so like no big deal." And those poor Californians don't let you forget that they are from Cali, and that this cold is "hella not cute." However, I know that when I go home to the Big Apple and my friends complain about 30 degrees being "freezing," I say "you don't know freezing if you've never been to Vermont."

Middlebury has made me appreciate the little things, like seeing the sun out on a regular basis. That heat wave we had last week made my day better, and I am sure that it did the same for some other folks. Seeing the snow melt put a smile on my face, and even when it comes back (give it two days) I will still have a reason to smile. Although spring seems to be ages away, spring break is only two weeks away. So smile. March 22 is only 15 days away from being yours and mine.

"Being raised by a West-Indian woman who thought winter was the season of the devil (go figure), I could not even think about wearing shorts until it at least broke 65."

HEY, I'M FROM OHIO

This op-ed was written in response to Ryan Kim's winning TEDx talk at the Nov. 8 student speaker competition. Kim will speak at this Saturday's TEDx event.

Ryan, I'm glad that you had an amazing summer experience — traveling the country by rail. There is so much to learn in this nation and I sincerely thank you for sharing that experience.

The three vignettes in your talk are cute and interesting but your conclusion is troublesome. You mention that people "treat huge swaths of our country, like the Midwest, like the Deep South, as fly-by zones or forgettable remnants of the past."

What people? Not the people where I'm from. I grew up in one of those "fly-by zones" — the Midwest — and my family has lived in the Deep South since before the War Between the States. We don't live in a "forgettable remnant of the past;" it's my childhood and my family, my heritage and hopefully my future. I don't need to be reminded that there are real people and real culture in these areas. Not to mention that there were even real people and culture in these areas for thousands of years before colonization. The fact that these reminders are necessary is incredibly offensive and a manifestation of "coastist" elitism.

The whole concept of a "fly-by zone" is funny because of how recently in human history we mastered flight, which nobody believed was possible. That is, until Susan Wright encouraged her sons in Ohio. Without the Midwest, you would not be able to fly over these cultural backwaters.

So who is your audience? It doesn't seem to be anyone from these "fly-by zones." This phrase reeks of and fundamentally appeals to a view of coastal

cultural domination. Just because my state only makes it to the foreground here every four years on the first Tuesday in November, does not mean you should just fly over Ohio.

Ryan, ultimately this really isn't about you at all. It's about why that coastist view of the rest of the country resonated so strongly with the judges here. I'm disappointed when such coastism that bites at everyone from the South and Midwest is so celebrated.

For the curious reader,

I leave you with a brief list of culturally significant people you may have heard of (or should look up) who called these "fly-by zones" home: Rosa Parks, Sojourner Truth, Toni Morrison, Patricia Polacco, R.L. Stein, Grace Lee Boggs, Ulysses S. Grant, Malcolm X.

Ryan, I'm glad that you are trying to challenge this regionalism and urge people to "pause and consider the magic you can find in our own backyard." But,

I urge you to refine your conclusion. Yeah, there are real people in the Midwest and Deep South. But some of us don't need to be told that.

"The whole concept of a 'fly-by-zone' is funny because of how recently in human history we mastered flight ... without the Midwest, you would not be able to fly over these cultural backwaters."

Unity,
Barrett Smith '13 (Ohio)

Message Endorsed by *Midwestern SCUM (Stopping Coastist Undercurrent at Middlebury)*: Jay Saper '13 (Michigan), Hannah Rae Murphy '14 (Michigan), Jessica Munyon '13.5 (Iowa), Mara Moettus '15.5 (Minnesota), Leah Pickett '13 (Kansas).

Not a goodbye letter: the push for real inclusivity

After Nathan Weil's piece, "A Call for a More Inclusive Movement," came out in last week's issue of the *Campus*, I heard responses that generally fell into one of two camps. The first sort praised Nathan's article for finally giving voice to a long harbored but scantily spoken sentiment. These responses were from men. The second sort of response expressed frustration at the broad generalizations and simplifications rampant in the piece. These were from women.

I sit on the fence between these groups, and in this article, I hope to weave the salient points from each "side" into an argument more conducive to encouraging the "inclusive movement" of which Nathan speaks than any galvanizing but polarizing article ever could.

READER OP-ED

Bree Baccaglioni '15 is from San Francisco, Calif.

I agree with Nathan's central point, which I have identified as the necessity of male inclusion in feminist practices. If the women's rights movement of the '60s didn't illustrate the imperative for male and female partnership, I don't know what could have. I see women's empowerment not as a "women's issue" but as a human issue. When women are safer, the world is safer; when women are economically independent, the world market grows; when women are educated, the world takes strides towards more democratic, peaceful politics. Since everyone benefits by women's advancement, everyone should be encouraged to push for it.

If you believe in this advancement towards equality (which is different from sameness), you are a feminist. I have not fingers enough to tabulate the number of conversations I have had with young men and women who in one breath express support for equality and in the next make the urgent disclaimer that they are not "like, a feminist or anything." Why is this? Well, the word "feminism" conjures a picture that looks something like this: a woman who never shaves, hates men and cares nothing for sex. Since I cannot give the concept of gender equality a new name, I have waged a grassroots battle against this misperception because it has repelled scores from embracing a movement working for basic human rights.

Unfortunately, the name is not the only thing that has discouraged many from considering themselves feminists; there is also the issue of tactics. Nathan speaks in his article about one woman, Sam Kaufman, and her actions. He cites her "radical" feminism as representative of the entire climate of gender work at Middlebury, and identifies her use of buzzwords such as "bro," "econ" and "ADP" as alienating for a white, privileged male like himself. It is this alienation that has led him to opt-out of both feminism at Middlebury and feminism writ large.

Though I cannot dispute Nathan and others' feelings of alienation, in the

"I have not fingers enough to tabulate the number of conversations I have had with young men and women who in one breath express support for equality and in the next make the urgent disclaimer that they are not, 'like, a feminist or anything.'"

same way that he cannot argue that the perception of discrimination in the economics department is "false and manufactured," I would question the productivity of disassociation. If one "believe[s] in equal rights for all," and merely disagrees with the manner in which identity politics are being treated at Middlebury, would it not be more constructive to enter the dialogue and reshape it to be more inclusive? The beautiful thing about student groups here is that they are highly responsive to the needs of their target audience: us. If any student — especially a white, male and privileged one — were to approach the leaders of FAM (Feminist Action) with an idea for a gender inclusion campaign, I strongly suspect the idea would be well received.

If one believes in the principle (i.e. gender equity) but disagrees with specific manner of mobilization around that principle (i.e. perceived anti-male at Middlebury), engaging the movers and shakers in said movement is infinitely more productive than leaving a farewell note, which is essentially what Nathan's article represents. Though he calls for "a more inclusive movement," he suggests he is not willing to help build one by calling himself a feminist and entering the trenches to shape the dialogue; signing out of a conversation cannot be mistaken for participating in one. I view Nathan's feelings of alienation not as motivation to quit the movement, but to join it, because like him, I know feminism can't continue without supportive men and women pushing forward.

That said, I encourage men who were galvanized by Nathan's article to consider experimenting with self-identification as a feminist or attending a FAM meeting and presenting a proposal for a male-inclusion campaign. I would also encourage these students to play the feminist field, so to speak; like everything else in life, feminists cannot be lumped together without qualification, and they do not all behave and think like Nathan's "radical" Middlebury feminist archetype (hint: the author of this article is one). I challenge you to find individuals you can relate to and see how you can lean in instead of opt out.

Similarly, I press upon the women of this community the necessity and desirability of inclusion. Though historically white males have been largely responsible for repressive gender policies, there is no reason to blame white male students at Middlebury for errors they didn't commit. Instead, they should be accepted as allies.

My hope is that if both sides engage in debates about feminism and its practice at Middlebury, the stark line between "us" and "them" will begin to blur, and one day, feminism will be a word embraced by most and needed urgently by none.

LOVING PRIVILEGED WHITE MALES, NOT LOVING OPPRESSION

Last week's op-ed, "A Call for a More Inclusive Movement," attempted to show how white privileged men are excluded from feminist and other activist discourses on campus. It is important that all members of our college community, including those who are viewed as vehicles of oppression, feel welcomed in spaces.

READER OP-ED

Written by **Dave Yedid '15, Sam Koplinka-Loehr '13 and Jay Saper '13**

Weil suggested that privileged white males should not feel ashamed of their identity. This absolutely is a critical point to honor. In so doing, and in working to create welcoming spaces, however, we must not obscure systemic dynamics of race, power and privilege.

Middlebury as a space was historically created for privileged white males. The power and money that fuel this college, despite shifts in the face of the student body in recent decades, is still in the hands of white privileged males.

What exactly does this mean? Well, it's tough. As privileged white men ourselves, we have struggled a lot in searching for understanding and in trying to see in a new light that which we are taught to ignore.

We have not come to an answer. Yet, this scarcity appears to us as abundance. Perhaps we have stumbled upon the greatest lesson: we do not possess all the answers.

We are all socially positioned in unique ways based on our multifaceted identities, which by no mean boil down to merely our gender and race. From this situated point, we fundamentally have different experiences, even of the same space. To us, this means we should listen to peoples' experiences and not write them off if they do not exactly align with

our own.

Weil asserted, "so-called feminists like Kaufman have created a culture wherein economics is synonymous with male-dominance." Interestingly, this presupposes that Kaufman has not herself experienced the department of economics as a space dominated by men.

In fact, by excluding the possibility that Kaufman studied economics, Weil further illuminates how even he himself imagines it as male-centered. In fact, not only has Kaufman taken an economics course or two, she majored in International Politics and Economics.

Whoops! Okay, yup. We have done it too. A lot. As privileged white males ourselves, we have made normalized assumptions that discount possibilities of validation of the experiences of other folks. To be honest, we still repeatedly make this mistake. We admit this because we find it really important to take responsibility. Without acknowledging how we mess up, we really can never set things right.

We ourselves are on a long journey riddled with imperfection. However, in that we see the potential to learn and grow. And unlearn and shrink as well. A dose of each is certainly necessary.

Throughout our lives, both subtly and overtly, we have been taught a lot about how we are to act in this world. Growing up as privileged white males, we are imbued with a sense of confidence, often ensuring our voices are heard and considered in decision making.

However, the flip side of this is that we are often taught to doubt others. We are taught to doubt those who are often systemically excluded from decisions that disproportionately affect them. Okay, yes. Here, we supposedly really respect critical thinking. And yes — critical thinking is good. But

there is a difference between critical thinking and denying someone else's experience merely because it deviates from our own.

Our commitment to being critical thinkers must include rigorous self-critique. Not out of distaste for who we are, but out of love. Love for wanting to live a caring life. Love for embracing our own fragility. Love for those whom we mistakenly harm. Love too for our fellow privileged white males.

It is through love that we are guided to take responsibility for the ways in which we perpetuate and benefit from our dominant positions. This responsibility for challenging ourselves and our fellow white males on multiple forms of oppression should not be undertaken with the notion that we ourselves can fix everything. We cannot do this alone. Thinking we can is one of those scary things our white male privilege often teaches us.

Sure, we need to speak up. But also, and much more importantly, we need to step back and listen. We need to listen deeply and truly honor experiences different from our own.

As privileged white males, we need to listen to our fellow privileged white males. Sadly we are taught to keep our emotions bottled up, a source of such great destruction. Possessing privilege does not make us bad people, but it does make us responsible for working to challenge and dismantle its unjust foundations. If you wish for a safe space to engage in this process with fellow privileged white males, please join us on Fridays at 4:30 p.m. in Chellis House behind Proctor.

Dave Yedid '15 (Port Washington, NY)

Sam Koplinka-Loehr '13 (Ithaca, NY)

Jay Saper '13 (East Lansing, MI)

Responding to study abroad concerns

I write to address two points raised in your article "Abroad Programs Raise Concerns" printed Feb. 28, 2013. First, it is important to note that Ms. Stewart's complaints were not unfounded, and I apologized to her in December on behalf of the C.V. Starr Middlebury Schools Abroad

LETTER TO THE EDITOR

Michael E. Geisler
is from Vice President
for Language Schools,
Schools Abroad and
Graduate Programs

for the difficulties she experienced during her time in Chile. I also told her that we would closely monitor the situation, which we have been doing and will

continue to do. I have since had several conversations about the program in Chile, including one with the Faculty Advisory Board. We have taken steps to make sure that the quality of the experience there will improve, and I believe it already has.

Second, the article suggested that President of the College Ronald D. Liebowitz and I were unresponsive to Ms. Stewart's concerns. I first heard from President Liebowitz about those concerns in mid-November 2012, after Ms. Stewart had been to see the President during his office hours. This was the first time I had heard of her concerns. I contacted Ms. Stewart on Nov. 28, asking her to meet with me, and she and I had a productive conversation on Dec. 3. During our meeting she informed me about the difficulties she had experienced during her time in Chile, and I told her that we would take steps to address the situation, which we have done. I would have been happy to share this information with the reporter if *the Campus* had contacted me for a response.

Michael E. Geisler
Vice President for Language
Schools, Schools Abroad and
Graduate Programs

A call to share your story

On Feb. 10, "The Map Project" went up in Davis Library. The project documented locations where students had experienced sexual assault at Middlebury. And if there was one lesson from this map, it was that sexual assault occurs everywhere at Middlebury. With the exclusion of one residential building, every dormitory on campus was covered by at least one dot. And with more than 100 red dots spread out across the Middlebury campus, the fact that sexual violence has affected so many of us was made visually clear.

READER OP-ED

Emily Pedowitz '13
is from Briarcliff, N.Y.

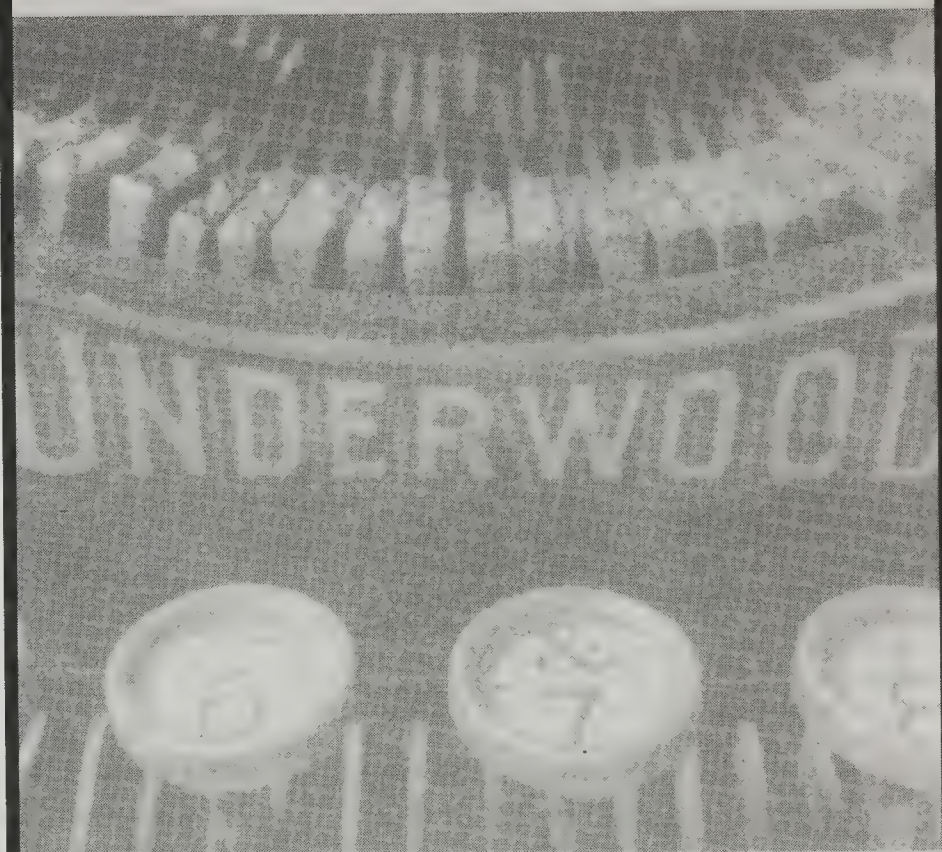
and common experience of sexual violence at Middlebury. However, this also shows the willingness of students to bravely share their experiences in order to raise awareness of an urgent issue. After a few weeks of light advertisement for the project, more than 100 students had submitted locations.

As a group, "It Happens Here" chose to pair this project with the powerful stories that students submitted for the event last spring. No matter how often we hear the statistic that one in four women, as well as one in seven men, will experience attempted or completed rape during college, the gravity and the pain inflicted from this violence is most truly understood through personal narrative. The event last spring

brought 500 Middlebury students, faculty and staff to listen to and stand with students who had personal experiences with this violence, whether it was a close friend who was a survivor, a mother or themselves. The event highlighted our intolerance of permitting this form of assault in the Middlebury community. This intolerance of sexual violence is extremely necessary in order to form a community that is aware of sexual assault, is kind and sensitive to its survivors and is willing to stand up and prevent sexual assault in the future. Therefore, we are asking you to share your story — whatever that story might be — for the spring event this year.

Seeing the more-than-100 red dots spread across the Middlebury campus gave me the chills. It wasn't just the sheer number of dots — just one dot is one too many. But I can imagine the powerful stories that each dot represents, and I know that the sharing of these stories can truly spur change. It can be a poem, it can be a sentence and it can be 10 pages long. It can be about rape. It can be about words. It can be about anything in between that was violating. It can be about an experience at Middlebury or an experience that occurred before you started college. It can be about your sister, your brother or your friend. When sexual assault touches one in four women at college, we *all* have a story to share and we all have the power to write our way to social change, to a campus where there might not be so many red dots and so much pain covering our home. Share your story at go/IHH.

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Spring Job Fling

SENIORS! Graduation is May 26.
Are you still looking for a job?
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Don't worry! Check out the 9th annual
Spring Job Fling. Bring your resume and
prepare to network with a variety of
Midd-friendly employers. Are you a
first year, sophomore, or junior?
Feel free to stop by and explore.

Wednesday, March 13, 2013

12:00–2:00 p.m.

MBH Great Hall

go/sjf

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Global faculty recruitment, leadership
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The original "invisible" underwear and
legwear loved by celebrities, fashion
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Epic

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One of the largest independent, middle-
market investment banking and growth
advisory firms in North America.

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instruction in Shenzhen, China as well
as top grade facilities to create the
optimal multi-cultural language learning
environment.

Logic Supply

Configures small, specialized computer
systems designed for embedded and
industrial applications.

MiddCORE

Mentor-driven, experiential learning
program to build leadership, communi-
cation and entrepreneurial skills.

Middlebury Community Care Coalition/Charter House

A non-profit, volunteer-based orga-
nization dedicated to providing basic
food and housing needs in and around
Middlebury, Vermont.

Middlebury Language Schools

Summer language programs in Arabic,
Chinese, French, German, Italian, Japa-
nese, Portuguese, Russian and Spanish.

MIIS

A graduate school of Middlebury
College offering graduate degrees with
an international focus.

MIL

Language instruction for K–12 children
through online courses and summer
academies.

National Life

A diversified family of financial service
companies offering life insurance,
annuity and investment products.

Peace Corps

Volunteer program aiming to promote
cultural understanding.

Pine Cobble School

Co-educational day school for children
in preschool through 9th grade, located
in Williamstown, Massachusetts.

Scribe America

Providing training of medical scribes
with the goal of promoting cost-
effective, quality medical care.

Tuck Business Bridge

Providing training in business skills to
college students and recent graduates;
including accounting, marketing,
finance, and leadership.

Vermont Youth Conservation Corps

A nonprofit youth, leadership, service,
conservation, and education organiza-
tion through conservation projects.

VPIRG

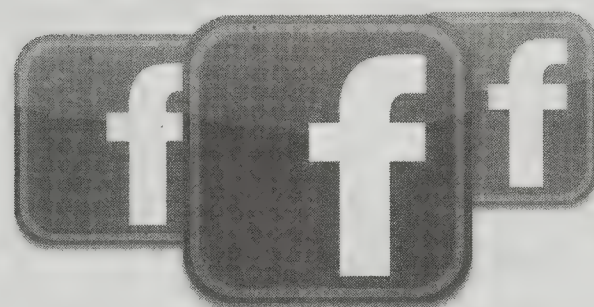
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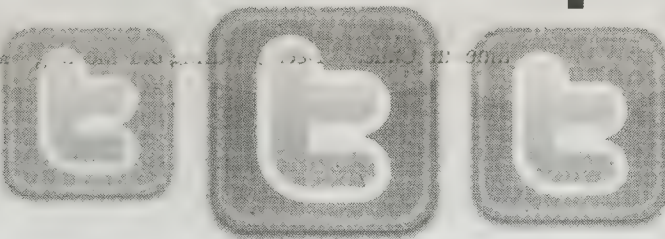
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2011/2012 RECORD
M AND W THIRD IN NESCAC
CAPTAIN

LOU CORNACCHIONE '13, PATRICK ROONEY '13, KYLE HARROLD '13, DAN BENT '13, SARAH O'BRIEN '13, EMILY DODGE '13, KARA WALKER '13

After an indoor season which has seen numerous school records fall and a new Division III national record in the women's distance medley relay, the Middlebury track-and-field teams look to improve on last year's success as they gear up for the outdoor season.

Jack Davies '13 – last year's NCAA runner-up in the 3000-meter steeplechase – returns to lead the Panther men in 2013. Other returning men's NESCAC champions from a year ago include sprinter Peter Hetzler '14, hurdler Kevin Chu '14 and the 400-meter relay team of Jason McCallum '14, Bryan Holtzman '14, Fritz Parker '15 and Hetzler. The 1600-meter relay of Parker, Sam Craft '14, Lou Cornacchione '13 and Patrick Rooney '13 returns all four legs and will look to improve on last season's runner-up finish at this year's conference meet.

The men finished third in the NESCAC a year ago, topping conference power Williams for the first time in years.

On the women's side, Middlebury is led by Addie Tousley '13, who won the 5,000 meters and finished second in the 1500 meters in the conference last year. Juliet Ryan-Davis '13 will look to defend her conference title in the 800 meters, as will Grace Doering '13 in the high jump. The 3200-meter relay team, which finished third in the NESCAC in 2012, returns two runners in Sarah Guth '15 and Lottie Hedden '14.

The Panther women were also third in the conference a year ago, finishing just two points behind second-place Tufts.

After indoor NCAAs, the Panthers have a one-week break from competition before they return to racing on their spring-break training trip in California. After the break, Middlebury has a three-meet regular season before competing in NESCACs at Tufts on April 27.

— Joe MacDonald



2011/2012 RECORD
4-9
CAPTAIN

STEW KERR '13, BILLY CHAPMAN '13, JOHNNY DUVNJACK '13

Coming off of a 4-9 record last year, the Middlebury men's lacrosse team is looking forward to another shot to prove their talent to the NESCAC and return to national prominence. The team has opened their preseason with two scrimmages, most recently against St. Michael's College.

"[The second scrimmage] was better than the first, but there is still a lot of room for improvement," said tri-captain Johnny Duvnjak '13.

Returning players to look out for include starting attackmen Mike Giordano '13 and tri-captain Stew Kerr '13. Andrew Metros '13, Scott Redmond '13, Erich Pfeffer '13, Brian Ayers '14 and Joel Blockowicz '15 return for the Panthers at midfield, while tri-captain Billy Chapman '13 and Darric White '14 return at long-stick defense with Nate Gaudio '14 in net.

"Harrison Goodkind [16] and Sean Carroll [16] have been very impressive at midfield," said Duvnjak.

The team has a tough schedule this year, starting off the season on the road at Bates this Saturday, March 9. With only 14 games in the regular season, the Panthers play 10 NESCAC games and four out-of-league games in hopes to qualify for NCAA's.

"The NESCAC, as it is in most sports, is extremely competitive and games usually come down to a goal or two," said Duvnjak. "I don't think we necessarily have a biggest rival, as each and every game in the NESCAC is extremely competitive."

The men play their first home game against Springfield on Wednesday, March 13.

— Mary Claire Ecclesine



2011/2012 RECORD
15-4
CAPTAIN
N/A

The Middlebury women's tennis team will take the court this coming weekend to start their quest for a national championship. Their first challengers are Brandeis and Trinity this Saturday, March 9. Alongside experienced assistant coach Karen Wells, last year's ITA National Coach of the Year Mike Morgan is ready to lead his team to a successful opening weekend.

Seniors Leah Kepping '13, Brittney Faber '13 and DeeDee Myers '13 will guide their fellow teammates this season. The doubles pairing of Kepping and Faber compiled a 14-4 record at the number-one position last spring. Their doubles expertise will surely help all three doubles pairings in the upcoming matches.

Lok-Sze Leung '15, last year's NESCAC Player of the Year and National Rookie of the Year, will take to the courts at the number one position. Dorrie Paradies '14 and Katie Paradies '15 also return for the Panthers. Sophomore Sarah Macy '15 hopes to serve her way into helping the Panthers succeed.

Adding to this powerful group of girls is a stellar first-year class including Ria Gerger '16, Margot Marchese '16, Lauren Aimos '16 and Sadie Shackelford '16. Gerger, who reached the finals of the ITA Regional tournament this past fall, has established herself as the fifth-ranked player in the region and will be instrumental in helping the Panthers.

"The team is chomping at the bit to finally start competing," said Morgan.

Currently ranked six in the country, the team is hoping to climb even higher. The Panthers won't have to wait much longer as competition begins this weekend.

— Courtney Mountfield



2011/2012 RECORD
15-5
CAPTAIN

MARGARET SOUTHER '13, NEILE WEEKS '13

The Middlebury women's lacrosse team looks to continue their NESCAC dominance with the return of many key players from last season, along with the addition of many new talented first-years. After finishing last season 15-5, taking second place in the NESCAC Championship, and making it to the NCAA semifinals, the Panther women have a challenging road ahead of them to match and outdo last season's success.

Middlebury will have two of three All-Americans from last year returning including Margaret Souther '13, and Katie Ritter '15. Souther totaled 63 points for the Panthers last season, including 39 goals and 24 assists. Ritter, who was named NESCAC rookie of the year, finished the season with a total of 42 points, consisting of 32 goals and 10 assists.

The Panthers will also return Liza Herzog '14 who made the Intercollegiate Women's Lacrosse Association second team, and finished the 2012 season with 35 goals and nine assists. Middlebury will look to these returning players along with the leadership of the captains and talented seniors who also include Neillie Weeks '13, Emma Kramer '13, Ellen Halle '13, Michaela Colbert '13, Alice Pfeifer '13 and Heather Morrison '13 for the leadership and talent needed to have a successful season.

The Panthers face a tough schedule this year given the number of games they play in the perennially competitive NESCAC, along with games against a number of talented out-of-conference teams. However, given the depth of the aforementioned Panther veterans, and the help of the talented junior, sophomore, and first-year classes, the Panthers are well positioned to take on any opponent that they face.

— Gabe Weissmann

2011/2012 RECORD
14-19
CAPTAIN
TOM DRIS
MIKE MU

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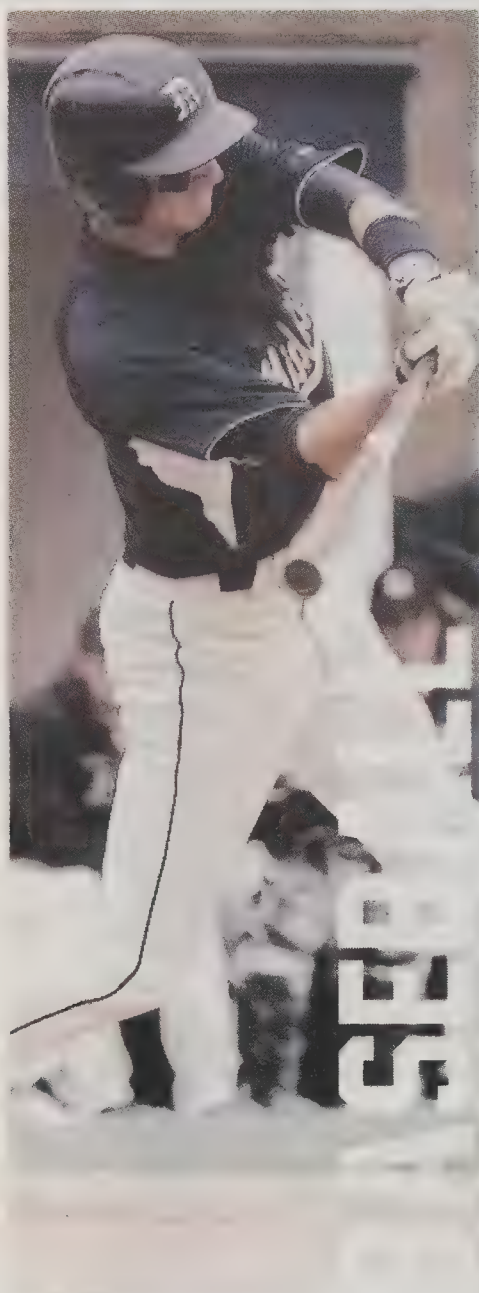
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SPORTS PREVIEW



2011/2012 RECORD
14-19

CAPTAIN
TOM DRISCOLL '13, ANDY DITTRICH '13,
MIKE MUMS '13

After missing out on a trip to the playoffs in the 2012 season, the Middlebury baseball team looks to improve on a 14-19 overall record and a fourth place finish in the NESCAC West Division. A strong senior class and highly talented roster promise to fill the gaps left by the loss of several key players during the postseason.

The Panthers look to be in great shape offensively despite losing two-time All-NESCAC selection and four-year staple Zach Roeder '12. The potent lineup consists of six returning starters, including third baseman Thomas Rafferty '13 – another 2012 All-NESCAC pick – and outfielder Alex Kelly '14 who led the Panthers with a .387 batting average and a .432 on base percentage. Senior captains Thomas Driscoll '13 and Michael Morris '13 also aim to build on their powerful hitting performances from a year ago.

The pitching rotation suffered a major loss as former ace Michael Joseph '13 opted out of his final season to sign a minor-league contract with the Baltimore Orioles back in August. Look for sophomores Logan Mobley '15 and Cooper Byrne '15 to respond with solid starting efforts this season backed by a deep relief staff and highlighted by Andy Dittrich '13, the third co-captain.

"If [the team's] strong work ethic is any indication of our future this season, then we are going to have a lot of success," said head coach Bob Smith.

Weather permitting, the Panthers will open their season this Saturday, March 9, with a doubleheader against Bates at Endicott College.

— Chad Clemens



2011/2012 RECORD
22-16

CAPTAIN
JESSA HOFFMAN '13, SARAH BOYLAN '13,
EMMA KATZ '13, JESSICA PORACKY '13

After falling short in their quest for a second straight NESCAC title last season, falling 2-1 to Tufts in the final, Middlebury softball is looking to come back stronger and more competitive for the 2013 season and to improve on their 22-16 overall record from a year ago.

With a strong returning team as well as the addition of five first-years, including three pitchers, a key to Middlebury's season will be depth.

"We will be more competitive in weekday games this season, since we have serious depth both in our line-up and the field," said co-captain Jessa Hoffman '13. "The experience our returners gained from tournament play last year will guide us through playoffs this spring. We expect big plays from members of every class this year after last year's postseason."

Middlebury returns with five 2013 all-NESCAC players, including a Defensive Player of the Year in Hoffman, who also set a school record with 49 hits.

Head coach Kelly Bever stresses the role of each individual player on the team this year.

"Our team overall is what's most important, and we're pretty interdependent," she said. "Our four seniors will play a key role in shaping the team, but we're looking to rely on upper and underclassmen alike." With this new depth, the Panthers are aiming to win every game they play. Consistency, especially with regards to hitting, is another big goal for Bever.

Middlebury starts their season with a double-header at Johnson State on Wednesday, March 13, before heading to Florida over spring break to kick off their NESCAC season.

— Alex Morris



2011/2012 RECORD
M FIRST IN NESCAC, W N/A

CAPTAIN
BILLY PRINCE '13, KEELY LEVINS '13

While the golf course may be covered in snow, both the women's and men's golf teams are preparing for their spring season in full form. Hitting balls into nets inside The Bubble has helped the women's team maintain their technique throughout these winter months in order to be competitive with more southerly opponents.

After a great fall season, including a pair of second place finishes, the women's team is gearing up to make improvements and build off their successful fall season.

"With three underclassmen on a team of five, we are definitely a young team," said captain Keely Levins '13. "But we are full of potential and are looking forward to the challenge of trying to unseat Williams as the top North Eastern team."

Returning Panthers include Michelle Peng '15, Jordan Glatt '15 and Caroline Kenter '14, while Monica Chow '16 will be competing in her first spring season for the Panthers.

The men's golf team is also eager to begin their spring season after a very successful fall season as they look to replicate their conference-championship season from a year ago.

The Panthers played five tournaments last year, culminating in a finish at the NESCAC qualifier which was good enough for the team to qualify the team for the conference championship, which will take place in the spring.

The team's strongest competition will likely come from Trinity and Williams. The College's team will not feature any first-years, as they bring back a strong lineup consisting of four sophomores, four juniors, and senior captain William Prince '13.

The Panthers have been training hard this winter, practicing in an indoor hitting area and watching video of their swings. The women will have their first tournament on the weekend of April 13, at Vassar while the men begin a week-end earlier, on April 5 at Rhode Island College.

— Men's coverage by Kevin Yochim,
Women's Coverage by Christine Schozer



2011/2012 RECORD
14-7

CAPTAIN
WILL OBERRENDER '13, ALEC PAROWER '13,
SPENCER LUNGHINO '13

Ranked 14th in the country in the preseason poll, the Middlebury men's tennis team will look to build on last year's experience under the helm of head coach Bob Hansen and assistant coach Adam Kent. New faces on this year's roster include first-years Ari Smolyar '16, ITA Regional semi-finalist Palmer Campbell '16, Jackson Frons '16, Allen Jackson '16 and Jack Welch '16, as well as junior transfer Alex Johnston '14. They are joined by impactful returners from the junior class: Brantner Jones '14, Teddy Fitzgibbons '14 and Zach Bruchmiller '14.

"Our [first-years] continue to push the envelope and set a high bar for the rest of the team but we are now getting some strong push back," said Hansen.

Characterized by its bench strength, the team is captained by three seniors, all of whom were starters last season, in Will Oberrender '13, Alec Parower '13 and Spencer Lughino '13.

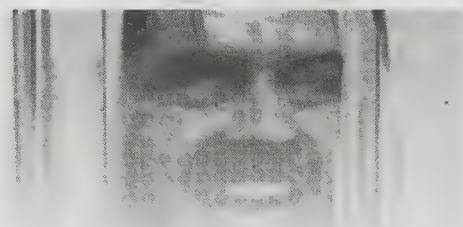
Oberrender believes cohesiveness and work ethic are the squad's two biggest strengths.

"We have been working extremely hard all year for the chance to show we are one of the best teams in the country," said Oberrender.

In the first half of the season, the Panthers will take on three foes from the Northeast at home before heading to Southern California over Spring Break for 10 more matches. After that, they will stay primarily in New England for their NESCAC regular season.

The men open their regular season at home against Oneonta and Brandeis this Saturday, March 9.

— Lok Sze Leung



ALL WORK AND NO PLAY

BY JOSH KRUSKAL

After this past J-term, I've developed something of a love-hate relationship with winter sports.

During Feb Orientation, I fractured my tibia while enjoying a day at the Snow Bowl with the new Feb class. I now have a leg brace and will be on crutches until spring break, at least.

The day I had the accident was the first time I'd skied at the Snow Bowl since my own orientation, one year before. Despite a now evident lack of skill, I was actually having a really nice day up until I fell. I had made several moderately successful runs on some of the easier slopes and was feeling pretty good about my progress.

Then, while going a bit faster than I should have been, I hit a rough patch and tipped over. I hit the ground hard and skid across the slope on my left side. Ski patrol helped me down the rest of the mountain.

I didn't know what was wrong for a week. My knee felt horrible but initially there was too much swelling to be able to tell what I'd actually hurt. An MRI finally revealed that a chunk of bone at the top of my tibia had been punched down into itself by the femur during the impact. It was bad news, but it could have been something worse, like a torn ligament.

The timing of my accident was a bit awkward, with the new semester just beginning, but I'm glad that spring isn't too much further away. The campus may look like a winter wonderland after a light snow, but it's harder for me to appreciate the scenery now that I have to constantly watch my feet on icy paths.

Being on crutches has been more annoying than challenging. It takes longer to do most things, and I've been stuck indoors a lot more than I'd like.

I find it ironic that the thing I miss most is snowshoeing. I'd never been snowshoeing before this year, but I signed up for the J-term PE class and had a wonderful time. I suppose I'm just better suited to more slow-paced winter sports.

I think before this J-term I would have self-identified as "indoorsy." Now that I've been deprived of the outdoors, I realize that I enjoy being outside more than I had previously grasped.

I enjoyed snowshoeing not so much for the actual activity, but for where it brings you. It's a unique feeling, being alone in the woods. It's wonderfully silent, and feels completely natural. There are no signs of people besides your own shoe-prints in the snow behind you. The cold takes getting used to, but once you build up enough body heat you stop feeling it.

J-term marked the end of my first full year at Middlebury, and though my days were surprisingly full during that month, I always found snowshoeing provided a much-needed respite from hurriedness. A few hours a week in the woods gave me all the time I needed to reflect on the past year, and to think forward to the next three.

My skiing accident has put a bit of a damper on this semester so far, but, like snowshoeing, it has given me plenty of time to think. It's perhaps more time than I want or need, but it's valuable time nonetheless.

New club distributes microloans

By Carly Andersen

Three Middlebury students have taken an initiative to start MiddPIG (Middlebury Philanthropic Investment Group), a club focused on integrating microfinance and philanthropy.

MiddPIG president and co-founder, Josh Kruskal '15.5, wants to add Middlebury to the growing number of colleges and universities with microfinance clubs. Kruskal spent his febmeester working for a nonprofit in Washington, D.C and was inspired by "issues pertaining to economic justice and social development." An International Politics and Economics major, Kruskal says his goal for the group is to "spread around the wealth of the Middlebury community."

According to the group's Facebook page, "MiddPIG (the Middlebury Philanthropic Investment Group) seeks to advance social justice by funding the ambitions of students and entrepreneurs in the developing world." Kruskal later clarified that the overarching term "social justice" encompasses the group's more specific endeavor to "increase economic prosperity in regions that don't have access to things like food, water and healthcare — basic human needs."

By facilitating and encouraging the distribution of small loans to students as well as entrepreneurs in developing nations, MiddPIG will support disadvantaged students as they pursue degrees, in addition to individuals outside of the Middlebury community looking to kick-start or supplement their businesses. Stephanie Ovitt '15.5, the club's secretary and co-founder, commented in an email that "[social justice] is working to provide support for those who have the initiative and drive to improve their lives but otherwise would not be able to."

Although the club's acronym includes

the designation "Investment Group," Kruskal is quick to point out MiddPIG's commitment to "social betterment" as a nonprofit organization, adding, "this isn't Wall Street." MiddPIG, not yet established enough to loan directly to individuals overseas, will distribute its temporary loans via two online micro-lending organizations, Kiva and Vittana.

Kiva, a nonprofit founded in October 2005, enables virtually anyone with a credit card to lend money in \$25 increments to Kiva-approved borrowers in countries such as Peru and Mali. With over one-million users, Kiva has helped lend more than \$400 million to borrowers across the globe, battling poverty by providing individuals with the tools to generate their own income. Kiva loan recipients receive 100 percent of the money provided by lenders, who are part of a vast network of volunteers that facilitate lending, disburse funds and collect repayment.

"Kiva has a 98.98 percent repayment rate so these aren't risky loans at all," says Kruskal. "We like that it's efficient."

While Kiva supports entrepreneurs in the developing world, Vittana, MiddPIG's other lending outlet, focuses its resources on empowering individuals through education. Established three years after Kiva, in 2008, Vittana brings student loans to locations where similar funding is unavailable. Rather than directly investing in a start-up business, Vittana encourages economic growth by educating the next generation. Like Kiva, Vittana also allows contributors to lend in \$25 increments, ensures that 100 percent of each loan reaches its intended student and has a repayment rate of over 99 percent.

Both Kiva and Vittana allow their lenders to choose the recipients of their loans based on profiles posted on their respective websites that include a student or entrepreneur's country, requested loan amount and basic in-

formation. These profiles will allow Kruskal, Ovitt and Jordan DeBeau '16 to choose the best candidates for MiddPIG's loans.

Microfinance institutions like Kiva and Vittana provide an easy and reliable way to lend on a small scale, perfect for a club like MiddPIG, which will start with relatively little funding. DeBeau, MiddPIG's treasurer and co-founder, emphasized the "micro" aspect of the group's activities and initiatives. Hoping to receive both the SGA's approval and \$250 in funding, MiddPIG will begin its push for social justice by lending in small "\$50 chunks" said DeBeau.

Kruskal also proposes a conservative beginning for the club, saying, "We'll start small and hopefully grow into something a little more ambitious."

For the club's first round of loans, DeBeau plans to send out four, \$50 loans, keeping the remaining \$50 to "get the club on its feet."

In regards to the club's future, MiddPIG's leaders hope to send out the first batch of loans before the end of the academic year with "a lot more promotion and fundraising" next year, hinted Kruskal. "We're looking at a lot of cool, exciting initiatives [to raise money]. We want to do concerts," he adds.

DeBeau added, "Not only does fundraising increase the amount of loans we can send out, but the rate at which we can send them out too."

As MiddPIG pursues its philanthropic and financial goals, the club will look for more and more support from Middlebury students "We're very excited about this project, and we hope that the campus gets excited too," said Kruskal.

The group encourages those interested to contact MiddPIG via Facebook or email at middpig@gmail.com for more information or to get involved.

Posse retreat spurs dialogue and discussion

By Emilie Munson

On Friday, March 1, 54 current Middlebury Posse scholars and 76 of their student, faculty and staff guests, called "plussers," traveled to Silver Bay, N.Y. for the nationwide PossePlus Retreat. The PossePlus Retreat is an annual program in which the Posse Scholars of all 44 participating colleges and universities gather in various locations with guests of their choice. Over the course of a weekend, the scholars and their invitees discuss a topic that Posse scholars name as one of importance to them. This year's topic was "What's Your Worth? Class, Power & Privilege in America."

Jennifer Herrera, retreat organizer and special assistant to the dean of the College, described the purpose of the retreat as promoting diverse discussion and interactions among community members in regards to a significant subject.

"The PossePlus Retreat is a dynamic way of bringing together students, faculty and staff in an effort to create critical dialogue about an important issue," explained Herrera. "We hear all the time that this retreat can be life-changing and that it often creates social networks, dialogue and activity that may not have been there before."

Scholars and their plussers and mentors departed from the College Friday afternoon for a weekend which Tara Affolter, posse mentor and visiting professor of education studies, described as "grueling."

After arriving in Silver Bay, participants took part in emotionally-charged activities until nearly 11 p.m., and then awoke early on Saturday for a complete day of discussions and activities until late Saturday night. On Sunday morning, participants completed a final round of activities before departing for campus around noon.

The weekend's activities centered around the ideas of revealing the functions of wealth and power in today's society and identifying the misconceptions and stereotypes which accompany them.

Posse-plusser Jordan Seman '16 felt enlightened by the weekend's activities, especially one in which participants identified various locations on campus that can be associated with class.

"The activity was incredibly eye-opening for me because it revealed many of the stereotypes and social-stratifiers that occur in our college community daily," explained Seman. "It led to very worthwhile discussions about class associations and privilege and how they play out at Middlebury."

To Posse scholar Ashley Guzman '13,



COURTESY OF JUN CHEN

PossePlus participants enjoyed their weekend of discussions with peers and mentors.

exploring the rapport between one's home life and life in college was most elucidated by the retreat.

"By being at Middlebury, I'm afforded a certain amount of power and privilege," said Guzman. "But in hearing everyone's stories about where they come from and being [a senior] who's leaving, it's very interesting to think about what it means to come to Middlebury and then go back to where you came from and how that can play a role in your experience at Middlebury."

The message of the significance of one's background resonated with Posse plusser Ian Rhee '15 as well. "The most meaningful part was seeing how different a life I lead from the majority of the people on the retreat," reflected Rhee. "I really got to see

how privileged and fortunate I am, and it really made me grateful for my parents and how hard they've worked to provide me with everything that I have."

Student Activities, Programs and Events Manager Dave Kloepfer who attended the retreat as a Posse faculty guest believes the topic of class, power and privilege is universal. "This topic hits home with everyone on some level," said Kloepfer.

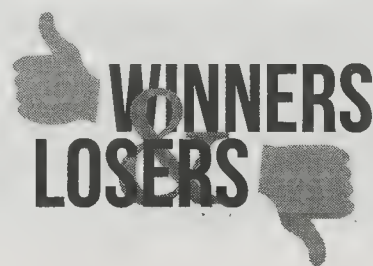
Many participants, both Posse scholars and guests, identified the retreat's comforting atmosphere as beneficial to poignant, meaningful conversation. "The most meaningful part of the retreat was having the ability to share personal experiences and opinions in a very safe and open space," said Seman. "We participated in many activities that allowed us to step out of our comfort zones and express ourselves in ways that we normally might not."

Guzman attributes her increased vocalization about social issues to the atmosphere that the retreat promotes. "I've become more confident through these safe spaces that the retreat promotes in calling things out and expecting more of people," she said.

Furthermore, Guzman hopes that these safe spaces can be brought back to campus through the sense of community generated at the retreat. "You immediately feel this comfort [at the retreat] that I don't immediately feel on this campus," said Guzman. "I just would really hope that the plussers and everyone who was invited just felt so included that they might now transfer that sense of community to [the College]."

Affolter entrusts this community of PossePlus participants, in particular the Posse scholars, with the task of increasing such powerful social dialogue as that which occurred on the retreat at the College.

"It's important to do these focused moments," said Affolter. "But these conversations really need to be threaded across our educational experiences and not just this isolated conversation. [...] That's the hope."



SNOWSHOE RACERS

A 10k before dawn is super ambitious for a Saturday morning.

HEATH BAR CAKE

Heath Bar, chocolate and caramel — what more do we need to say?

SCREAMING GOATS

Thank you for giving us another excuse to listen to "Trouble."

MARCH SNOW

Self-explanatory.

MIDD UNPLUGGED

Ethernet cord not long enough, wi-fi not strong enough.

PRINTERS

As our readings become denser, our Papercut accounts become slimmer.

Campus Character: Colby Horn '13

By Joe Flaherty

While Middlebury students have probably seen Colby Horn '13 wheeling around campus on a unicycle, he is not one to brag about his unique skill.

"I'm probably one of the newest additions to the collection of unicyclists," said Horn. "But I have been learning and using it to drive around campus."

Horn said the unicycle is his way of staying active to counteract the more sedentary aspects of his major.

"Because I'm a computer scientist, and I spend all day staring at computers I like doing what some people might classify as 'extreme sports' or things that really get my body outside of its usual range of motion," said Horn.

Horn does martial arts, mountain biking, windsurfing, slacklining and capoeira when he is not "staring at a screen."

"Right now I'm transitioning into Brazilian jiu-jitsu," said Horn, a style of self-defense wrestling that he has mainly taught himself. "Everything I do is a little self-taught; it's part of why I like computer science," said Horn.

Horn, a computer science major and math and music double minor, grew up in southwest Vermont, where his home did not have Internet or continuous power.

"So, learning computing in my early days was very interesting — it was a lot of text and a lot of theory and not so much running things," said Horn. "I got here as a [first-year] and people would talk about Facebook and StumbleUpon, and I was like, what? I still don't have a Facebook page," added Horn.

While this might seem like a disadvantage for a computer scientist, Horn thinks there may be an upside.

"In [a] cold, calculating way, I like my prospects in the job market when you're the only computer scientist who can handle living in the middle of nowhere."



COURTESY OF EQUIPE CAPOEIRA BRASILEIRA

Unicyclist Colby Horn performs in a 2012 capoeira belting ceremony among his peers.

Although Horn entered Middlebury as a first-year, he also attended Bard College at Simon's Rock for his senior year of high school.

"If I wanted to stay there for four years I could get a Bachelor's Degree from them," said Horn, "but usually people go to Simon's Rock and transfer to another school, and that's what I did."

Horn is interested in machine learning, which he describes as the "area of computer science under artificial intelligence that is specifically concerned with teaching computers to learn and become more clever based on their observances of certain environments." Horn's thesis is related to mental interface, a process in which he gives a mental command and a computer executes it.

As a result of his focus on artificial intelligence, a unicycle is not the only extreme vehicle Horn has driven. He spent last summer writing an artificial intelligence computer program that drives Marine supply convoy trucks as a part of doing research with the Robotics Institute

at Carnegie Mellon University.

"Effectively, I was giving eyes to these vehicles," said Horn, "so that they could identify, say, concrete barriers and know to drive around them or decide which concrete barriers were the most infirm and drive through them."

While Horn said the research was "an incredibly awesome experience," not being able to publish his research for security reasons was disappointing to someone interested in going into academia. Horn, a teaching assistant in the computer science department, says he may want to become a professor someday.

"I really do love to teach," said Horn. As a music minor, Horn's interest in instruments is as wide-ranging as his penchant for extreme sports.

"I play a lot of instruments, but that's not like I play a lot of instruments [well]," said Horn. "I like to experience what each instrument can do and the sound qualities that each instrument can produce."

Painting project revamps Lower Forest

By Adam Kelley

Walk into the basement of Forest Hall these days and you will find a transformed space. Thanks to the efforts of a few inspired students, this once stark, industrial area is now the site of an open-ended art project that aims to turn the basement into a viable social venue through weekly Sunday night painting sessions.

The project started out of a desire to reclaim what was once an inviting alternative space, home to dance parties and other late-night gatherings. In years past, it was chiefly the presence of

student artwork that set "LoFo" apart from other social areas on campus. But in the summer of 2011, the hall was renovated, and the process destroyed the art that had become a hallmark of the space. When it became clear after the renovation that students would no longer be allowed to decorate the basement, a spate of graffiti protesting the loss of Lower Forest Hall aroused controversy among students and the administration. The conflict was never satisfactorily resolved — since the unauthorized tagging was painted over in early 2012, the walls have remained bare.

Earlier this year, Christopher Bat-

son '13 and Katy Smith Abbott, dean of students, began to shape the current effort to make use of the area once again. In an email, Batson described his vision of "black box" spaces — common spaces that would be transformed into dance hall-like spaces, where all the walls would be painted black, there'd be strobe lights, black lights and a sweet sound system," places students could host dorm parties and DJ events.

This notion is part of a broader attempt to expand Middlebury's weekend scene, and give those who want a different place to gather more chances to create their own events. Though Lower Forest's walls will not be black, the art that adorns them (currently ranging from a painting of a beach scene to abstract shapes and human figures) serves to create the same kind of "alternative space" that can be used as students see fit. Batson added that the project is not related to last year's controversy, but is rather a fresh attempt to reclaim the area.

Painting is done from 5 p.m. to 9 p.m. on Sundays, and all are welcome to participate. Individuals may express themselves as they wish; the only rules are "no profanity, English words, or inappropriate references." Students hope to have the space ready for use before the end of the semester, and Dean Abbott has been striving to obtain A/V equipment for Lower Forest and several other places around campus. A year and a half in the making, Lower Forest is close to being fully restored as a special place dedicated to students looking for something different on a Friday or Saturday night.



TASTE CHEESE CHOPSTICKS



BY JIAYI ZHU

I have been focusing too much on distinctions. Coming to a new culture, it is natural to encounter little differences to huge cultural shocks that remind me of all the distinctions between home and the place I am living now.

I wrote about how Americans and Chinese have different perceptions towards the moon, how the characteristic of independence in America has its equivalence of cute in China, how Western and Eastern culture prioritize filial piety differently ... These are all the reasons we are different, but we tend to forget there are more characteristics that make us similar.

I was at the spring activities fair two weeks ago. When I went to recruit new members for International Student Organization (ISO) with another board member, the most frequent question I got from students was "Can I sign up if I'm an American?"

I was frustrated to get responses like that, especially when I knew how hard ISO tried to promote us as an organization that is open to everyone and anyone.

There are a lot of cultural organizations on campus, such as Chinese Society, German Club and Islamic Society, and they are not only for students who identified with that certain culture. It is we who distinguish and limit ourselves by cultural background.

The notion of seeking similarity rather than distinction came to me stronger several days later when I was having dinner with a friend. She asked me how welcoming Americans are comparing to Chinese to foreign visitors.

I was about to differentiate again. But after comparing them, I realized there is not that much of a difference. Chinese people may seem more excited than Americans when seeing foreign faces, but it is reasonable since most of them never encounter any foreigners in their lifetime.

Chinese like to invite friends to go out for dinner, while more often Americans bring friends over to their house. Although the format of welcoming friends is different, both cultures, and I believe all other cultures, want to be amicable to friends.

Once I realized this, the theme of similarity started to reappear in my life. During the talk *The Commonwealth of Breath* last Thursday, David Abram at one point addressed the human perception of air through the lens of Hebrew Bible.

He pointed out that the sacred YHWH resembles the sound of our breath. Although he is focusing on the indigenous cosmologies and the intellectual history of the west, there is something similar to the religion and philosophy of the east.

When he mentioned the sound of our breath, I instantly related it to a common practice in Buddhism: one way to practice Zen is to count the breath. And the same linkage between the mind and the atmosphere will be noticed.

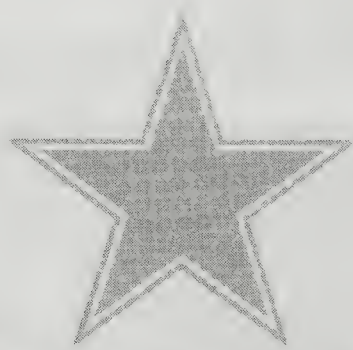
Realizing the differences definitely helps one to learn and adapt to a new culture. But digging too deep and reinforcing those differences may lead to intense partition. Conflicts are usually not caused by fundamental differences of culture but by miscommunication and misunderstanding.

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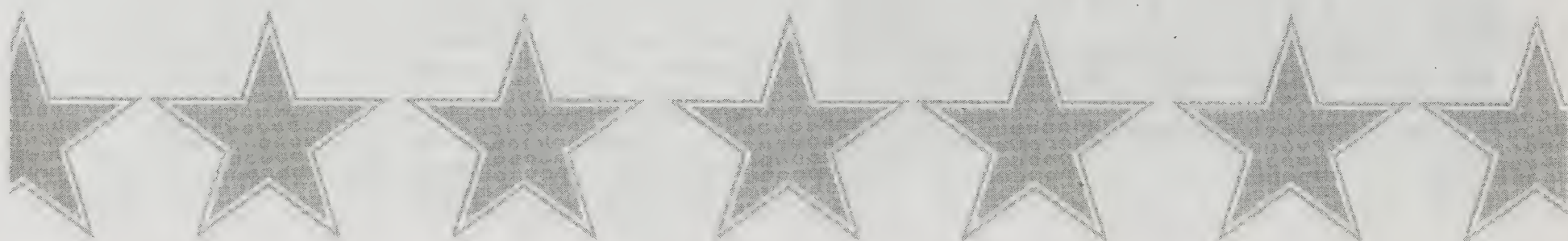
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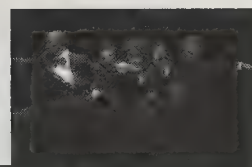


Photo exhibit depicts Vermont quarries

By Jiayi Zhu

Nature Transformed, which is on display in the Museum of Art through April 21, presents a selection of Edward Burtynsky's photographs of the Vermont quarry industry in the 90s. Burtynsky, a Canadian 2005 TED prize-winner, is a photographer who has achieved international recognition for his large-format photographs of the industrial landscape.

"Being almost the most visible environmental photographer in our time, Burtynsky's project of quarry[ies] in Vermont turned out to be important and formative in his career," said Professor of History of Art and Architecture Pieter Broucke, co-planner of this exhibit.

After conducting the bank architecture project and noting that the stones "had to have been taken out of the quarry one block at a time," Burtynsky recorded in his artist statement that, "I envisioned an inverted cubed architecture on the side of a hill." This inverted skyscraper concept led Burtynsky to Vermont. Once here, Burtynsky started his renowned exploration of nature and industry, working with and photographing the quarry stoneworkers. These stoneworkers, who immigrated to Vermont from Europe, introduced to Burtynsky the ancient quarrying town of Carrara, Italy; it was there that he finished his first overseas project.

Burtynsky first came to Vermont from Toronto in 1991. After that, he visited quarries in Vermont five more times. The photographs of his first visit, such as *Rock of Ages #26, Abandoned Section, E.L.*, show the formal quality of quarries.

"Burtynsky was more interested in the surface of the quarry during his first visit," Broucke said. "... there is just a little bit of sky and Vermont landscape on the top of the photograph. The pattern of Smith Quarry in this photograph almost looks like a quilt."

The development of the past century of quarry industry in Vermont is clearly shown in this photograph. Like an inverted skyscraper, blocks at this abandoned

quarry site get larger and larger from top to bottom with the changes of technology from vertical parallel drilling to cable cutting marked on them.

As a teaching museum, the Museum of Art, collaborating with Hood Museum of Dartmouth College, aims to convey the stories behind the photographs through *Nature Transformed*. In a catalog called *Nature Transformed: Edward Burtynsky's Vermont Quarry Photographs in Context*, specialists in a variety of disciplines from both colleges interpret these photographs through a variety of lenses, including the history of photography, social history of the migration of stoneworkers from Italy to Vermont and the geology of the quarry in Vermont. These interpretations provide a backdrop against which to view the photographs and give visitors a better understanding of the scholarly context of the exhibition.

The introduction section of *Nature Transformed* includes the geological map of New Hampshire and Vermont, a photograph of Burtynsky, a Middlebury owned *Rock of Ages #19* and title wall. There are two main sections — marble quarry photographs and granite quarry photographs — marked by a marble bench and a granite bench in the hall. *Abandoned Marble Quarry #18, OMYA #51* and *Vermont Marble Company #52*, are arranged on the same wall, forming a lyrical and harmonious atmosphere. A series of photographs of the Carrara Marble Quarry follows *Danby Marble Quarry #2, Underground Quarry* to show how ancient quarries have formed the land-

scape of Carrara, Italy differently from Vermont.

The other side of the exhibition features photographs of a granite quarry from the other side of the Green Mountain. *Rock of Ages #12, Rock of Ages #4* and *Rock of Ages #25* depict the abandoned section of Adam-Pirie Quarry and are arranged in such a way that the water at the bottom part of these photographs seems to link and flow. The color of the water, turned green by the growing algae, and consuming the granite in the quarry, gives the photos an eerie glow. Within the granite quarry section, the Museum also compiled a display shelf of historical photographs of stoneworkers in Vermont from a century ago that tell the story

"Burtynsky was more interested in the surface of the quarry during his first visit [to Vermont], there is a little bit of sky and Vermont landscape on the top of the photograph. The pattern of Smith Quarry in the photograph almost looks like a quilt."

PIETER BROUCKE

PROFESSOR OF HISTORY OF ART AND ARCHITECTURE

of how the quarry came into being.

Measuring as much as 60-meters down into the Earth, quarry sites are considered to be scars on the landscape. In Burtynsky's work, however, these scars become compelling and beautiful rather

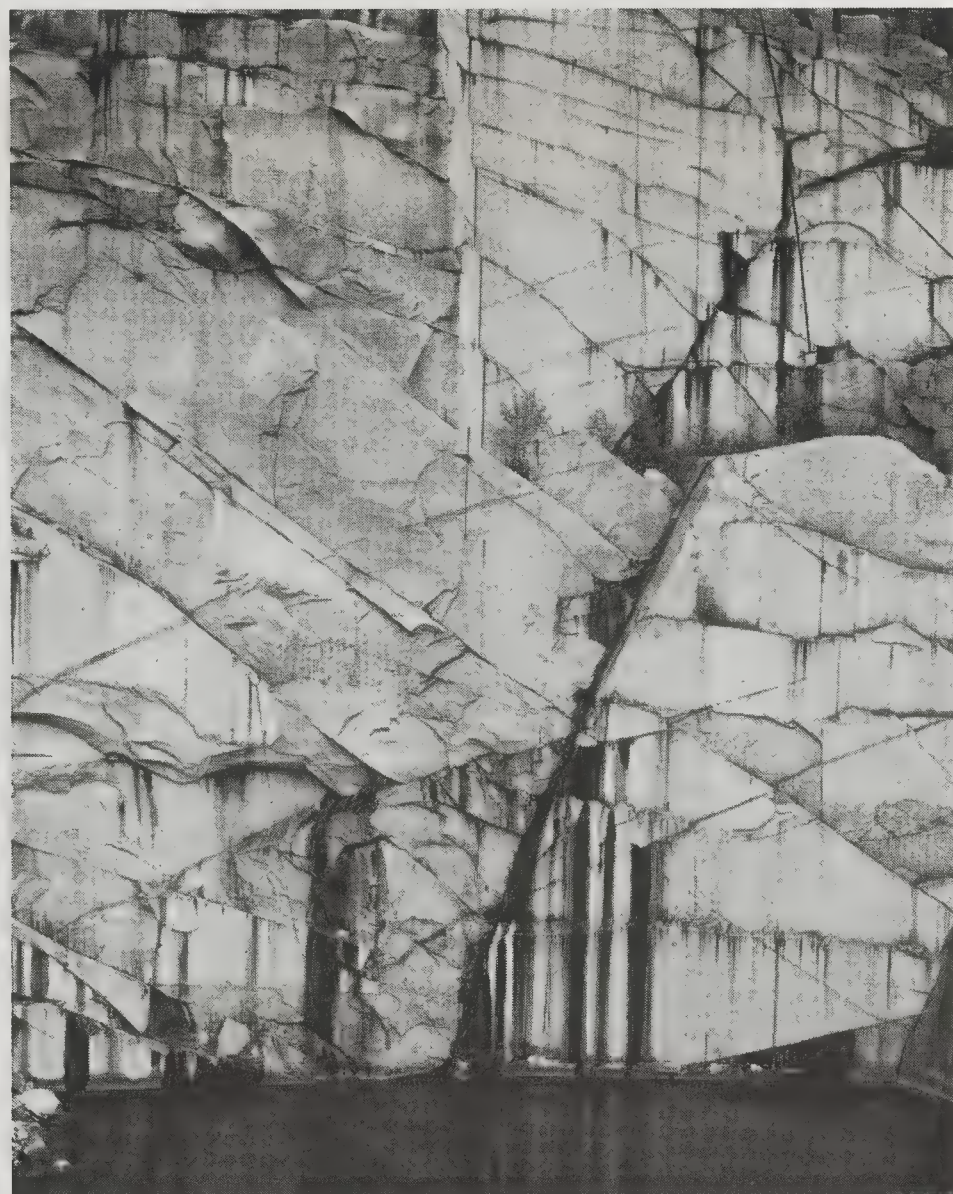
than visually disturbing.

"A variety of sites were chosen to present this sublime-scale modern industrial extraction activity, approximating their natural state," Professor of History of Art and Architecture Kirsten Hoving explained in her March 5 lecture, "Digging Deep: Edward Burtynsky's Vermont Quarry Photographs."

"These abstracted objects convey implicit subtext of technology and consumption, which make these amazing visual images more than just pictures," said Hoving.

Hoving believes that Burtynsky highly aestheticizes Vermont quarries by looking up-down, providing a complex and even confusing view that eliminates the horizon and thus avoids easy grasp of his photographs. Burtynsky's elevated viewpoint is similar to Robert Adams's quest to uncover human presence in the landscape in an exhibition called "New Topographics: Photographs of a Man-Altered Landscape" in 1975. Humans inhabiting the landscape continues to be an on-going concern of Burtynsky, and his large scale photographs continue to serve as a metaphor for industrial consumption on nature.

Burtynsky is coming to the College to speak about his photographic career as well as his exhibition on March 14. In addition, a series of lectures focusing on different aspects including social history and photography relating to the exhibition will take place in March and April on campus.



COURTESY

Edward Burtynsky's *Danby Marble Quarry #2, Underground Quarry, Danby, Vermont* (left) and *Rock of Ages #4, Abandoned Section, Adam-Pirie Quarry, Barre, Vermont* (right) are but two of the pieces at the Museum of Art for the *Nature Transformed* exhibit, a collection of photographs of Vermont quarries.

**DON'T
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Cinderella Symposium

The symposium traces the lineage of the multiple versions of Cinderella to its original tale. Join the discussion about fairytales and learn how these tales influenced our past, present and future.

3/7, 4:30 P.M., WRIGHT MEMORIAL THEATRE

Off the Wall: Informal Discussions about Art

Professor of History of Art and Architecture Pieter Broucke discusses *Propylaea* by Kahn, the Museum's newly acquired pastel drawing. After the discussion, join the museum staff for a light lunch and further discussion about the piece.

3/8, 12:15 P.M., CENTER FOR THE ARTS

TEDxMiddlebury: The Road Not Taken

Middlebury brings a host of speakers including student Ryan Kim '14 to discuss their personal experiences about making uncommon choices. Other speakers include a spoken-word artist, a female football coach, a mountaineer and a mindfulness teacher.

3/9, 10 A.M. - 4 P.M., CENTER FOR THE ARTS

'The Opulence of Integrity' to blend dancing and combat

By Jessica Cheung

Next weekend, March 15 and 16, Professor of Dance Christal Brown's dance company INSPIRIT will premiere their new work, "The Opulence of Integrity." Choreographed by Brown, the performance draws its inspiration from the spirit and legend of Muhammad Ali, featuring elements of boxing, hip-hop and martial arts.

Composed of four movements, "The Opulence of Integrity" has been two years in the making. The performance opens with Ali's relationship with Malcolm X, marked by the passing of the torch as the catalyst for the black power movement. The piece then delves into the story of Ali as a legend, exploring how humans become superheroes. The performance explores the tensions between "inner choices [and their] outside consequences," according to Brown, moving into his opposition of the Vietnam War. The last movement then documents Ali's comeback period, galvanized by his great fight with George Foreman, a movement Brown describes as a "transformative period wherein his victory was not only in spirit, but for the cultures."

Brown worked with Professor of Theatre Dana Yeaton to coach three students — Cheswayo Mphanza '16, Debanjan Roychoudhury '16 and Clifford Alexander '15 — in performing some of Ali's poems that interweaves the visual performance into a narrative one.

"Rather than imitate Ali, the students are each being challenged to make Ali's words their own, connecting them as much as possible to their own experience of being young, male and black in America," Yeaton said.

"We are not necessarily acting like Ali, but carrying his message through the spirit of what we feel," Mphanza said. "Your voice and your word are the most important things you can possess as an individual. That is how people will remember you." Refracting Ali's poems through the students' lens expanded the meaning of Ali's experience and legend.

"The Opulence of Integrity" does more than just focus on Ali; rather, it uses Ali as an archetype for men of color to expand to include student voices and engage with the audience into a bigger conversation about social responsibility and the conflict between intense personal resolve and human limitations.

"We are able to convey emotions to the audience which result in them conveying emotions back to us," Mphanza said. "We might be distant in the sense of performer [versus] watcher, but we are able to share a moment together that does not have to be transparent."

Leading up to the performances are a week-long residency of activities that includes two master classes and a lecture-demonstration in which Brown — a professor of the class, the Creative Process — discusses her own creative process behind the performance and the experience of working with, for the first time, an all-male dance cast.

"As a black, female artist, I navigated a different perception by understanding compassion and truth," Brown said. "You have to be very honest with what you're making. Because I'm taking people's perceptions into account, letting in parts of who I am was a challenge, but I gave myself the permission to use any part of me at anytime whether that was an artistic choice or not."

After the premiere, Brown plans to take "The Opulence of Integrity" to the world stage. "We are going to try to get it seen in as many places as we can," Brown said. "The premiere will give us more information on what it looks like and what to show."

"Watching the text, sound, lights and movement come together will be a high-stakes thrill," Yeaton said. "I'm a theatre guy who loves boxing and can't seem to get enough of the American Civil Rights movement: no one brings those things together more than Ali."

Roychoudhury hopes to impart to the audience "a reflection of not only the life of Ali, but also the life of all black men in America. Ali as a larger than life persona

can reflect on the individual. The audience is not looking through an outside lens, but diving in the community at large."

The residency opens with a master class for beginners and intermediates taught by INSPIRIT Dance Company on March 12. A second master class in the intermediate and advanced level will be taught on March 13 at 2:50 p.m., followed by Brown's lecture-demonstration at 4:30 p.m. All the events take place at the Kevin P. Mahaney '84 Center for the Arts. Classes are free, but space is limited.

"The Opulence of Integrity" will debut 8 p.m. on March 15-16 at the Kevin P. Mahaney '84 Center for the Arts. Tickets are \$6 for students, \$15 for faculty and \$20 for general public.



COURTESY

Professor of Dance Christal Brown's INSPIRIT Dance Company will perform *The Opulence of Integrity*, a tribute to the life and legacy of the legend Muhammad Ali.

THE REEL CRITIC

BY OLIVIA FRENCH

This past Saturday the Hirschfield International Film Festival screened *Tuesday, After Christmas*, a Romanian movie that was not only selected for the Cannes and New York Film Festivals, but also received rave reviews from critics across the country. It has been touted as "deeply affecting, brilliantly performed" by *Time Out, New York*; "a further example of Romanian virtuosity" by the *Village Voice*; and "a remarkable, pitch-perfect work" by the *Los Angeles Times*. With this high praise and acclaim in mind, I sat down to watch the movie with high expectations. Unfortunately, they were never met. In fact, I found *Tuesday, After Christmas* disappointingly flat, with poor character development and a plot line too simple for the topics it explored.

Tuesday, After Christmas was released in 2010 and directed by the popular Romanian filmmaker Radu Muntean. It follows a married, middle-aged businessman named Paulo, who falls in love with his daughter's young

dentist, Raluca. Paulo hopes that his feelings for Raluca will eventually wane and that his family life will return to normal, but after five months of secret meetings and intimate phone calls, he finds himself so hopelessly in love with Raluca that he cannot bear to keep their relationship secret.

He comes clean to his wife, Adriana, on Christmas eve, shattering forever their small family.

Adriana demands that Paulo move out of the house, and he obliges, transferring his things into Raluca's apartment just hours before Christmas dinner at his parents' house. He and Adriana plan to wait until after Christmas to tell their daughter and Paulo's parents about the break-up, but it is clear, in the final dinner scene, that their holiday cheer is only an act, put on to save those they love from the repercussions of adultery — at least for a little while.

Although the actors' performances are wonderfully nuanced and raw, the movie suffers from poor character development. As director, Muntean is so devoted to portraying Paulo's inner turmoil that he loses other important details. We never learn much about the evolution of Paulo's relationship with

Adriana, for example, and we know little about Adriana herself or how she feels about her marriage (a marriage that seems lacking in passion but certainly affectionate and close). Similarly, Raluca's backstory is unclear, as is the backstory of her and Paulo's romance. These details are important, and would humanize an otherwise flat film, and because we are never given a full enough portrait of any one character, we never feel particularly connected to Paulo's struggle.

Adultery seems to have become somewhat commonplace in the storyline of the modern romance — or at least the frequency with which it is presented in entertainment would have us believe so.

Muntean paints adultery as an every day sort of sin by highlighting the unimpressiveness of his characters and their lives. Paulo himself is not particularly handsome or successful. He lives in a small house, holds a steady, boring job and spends his evenings picking up groceries. Although the simplicity of his story is not necessarily a problem in itself, coupled with poorly developed characters, it makes for a long and monotonous 99-minutes. For a movie exploring a topic as rich with complexity, humanity and morality as adultery, *Tuesday, After Christmas* failed to move me.

Tuesday, After Christmas was sponsored by the Hirschfield International Film Series and Russian and East European studies program. For more information about the Hirschfield International Film Series, check out go/Hirschfield. Next week's documentary, *Nostalgia for the Light*, explores the Atacama Desert as the convergence point for celestial glory, archaeological investigations, and buried memories of political violence.

TUESDAY, AFTER CHRISTMAS

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2013 VIVA ROSS VEGAS
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ROSS DINING HALL
\$10 AT THE DOOR

17 1/2
SENIOR THEATER THESIS
3/13-16
HEPBURN ZOO
8 AND 10:30 P.M.

SCIENCE SPOTLIGHT: MONSANTO'S SEEDS

By Will Henriques

What does it mean to possess the genetic information of something or someone? Is the genetic code – the foundation of life from bacteria to homonids – a patentable product? Or is there a line somewhere, because genetic information is the stuff of life and life is sacrosanct, and patent law only goes to a point?

It's an interesting and difficult question and a question that is particularly relevant today. A week and a half ago, on Feb. 19, the Supreme Court heard a case involving the biotechnology company Monsanto, and a small Indiana farmer, Vernon Hugh Bowman (*Bowman v. Monsanto Company*, No. 11-796).

Monsanto is suing Bowman, who owns a 300-acre soybean farm in Indiana, for saving and planting multiple generations of their patented, genetically modified "Roundup Ready" seeds. Andrew Pollack of the *New York Times* reported: "[Bowman] bought commodity soybeans from a grain elevator [for a second planting]. These beans were a mixture of varieties from different farmers, but, not surprisingly, most of them were Roundup Ready. So Mr. Bowman sprayed Roundup on his late-season crop. 'All through history we have always been allowed to go to an elevator and buy commodity grain and plant it' [Bowman] said in an interview."

The courts, however, have not agreed. After Monsanto sued Mr. Bowman in 2007, a district court in Indiana awarded the company more than \$84,000.

Bowman is being taken to court for planting seeds that contain the gene for Roundup Ready resistance without buying the seed from Monsanto. Monsanto is a biotechnology company, and they've devoted massive amounts of resources to the development of this line of seeds. To them, it's a patent infringement case and for that reason, Monsanto has a broad range of support from diverse groups – from software companies to laboratory instrument manufacturers. Everyone is

concerned about how this case will affect the future of commercial enterprise and innovation.

Charlotte Silver, an opinion writer for *Al-Jazeera* commented that: "According to court reports, the panel of judges was less than amenable to farmer Vernon Hugh Bowman's argument that the purview of Monsanto's patent ends once its seeds have yielded their first generation of a crop. Monsanto sees it differently, arguing that it must be able to prevent farmers from using seeds obtained from subsequent generations of plants. That the Supreme Court would resist Bowman's argument should come as no surprise. After all it was the Supreme Court that, in 1985, granted seed companies the right to limit farmers' ability to save the seeds the companies had patented."

But is there another angle we should be examining?

What has been for centuries free for farmers – the seed planted from last year's crop – is now becoming a patented, profitable commodity, and a lucrative one at that. According to a report from the Associated Press in the *New York Times* on Jan. 8 this year, "The company's sales grew 21 percent, to \$2.9 billion in the quarter, with most of the increase coming from the company's corn seed business." The report goes on to indicate that "Sales of the company's largest unit, seeds and genomics, grew 27 percent, to \$1.1 billion, on demand from farmers in Brazil and Argentina."

Is this right?

Silver criticizes Monsanto for exporting their biotechnology to developing countries in South America, Asia and Africa. She wrote: "Prominent food justice activist and defender of seed biodiversity, Vandana Shiva, described AGRA as a major assault on Africa's seed sovereignty for its encouragement of biotechnology in African countries. In 2009, three years after Gates launched his AGRA initiative, Doug Gurian-Sherman, a senior scientist with the Union of Concerned Scientists,

published the first independent study on transgenic crop yields. It concluded that biotechnology has not resulted in increased yields, and, in fact, traditional and organic breeding techniques have a much more successful track record."

Apart from sub-par yield performance, herbicide-resistant crops are giving rise to new problems. Weeds are slowly becoming resistant to Monsanto's Roundup pesticide. Silver wrote; "A recent report published in January by Farm Industry News found that the number of farmers reporting Roundup-resistant weeds is rapidly increasing. In 2012, nearly half of all US farmers interviewed found super weeds on their farms, a considerable increase from the 34 percent reporting such weeds in 2011. Although Monsanto's first generation of transgenic soybeans and the concomitant herbicides are responsible for the development of these brawny weeds, it will try to convince farmers that their second generation of herbicides will provide the solution."

This last issue begs the question: should we mess with nature's systems? Many would argue no. But the promise of biotechnology is undeniable, and the march of progress is inevitable. In the absence of a complete halt of technological advancement, I would argue that our priority right now would be holding a conversation as a society about which aspects of progress are ethical and which are not. And the only way that such a conversation can be meaningful is if it is grounded in strong scientific understanding.

The debate must be approached respectfully, humbly, with curiosity, as, in the words of Aristotle, "the person who deliberates seems to inquire and analyze in the way described as though he were analyzing a geometrical construction, 'with the aim of answering the question: what is right? Because it's not only the Supreme Court who should be engaging these issues. We all need to engage them on a daily basis. They will impact our lives profoundly."

Thesis show runs the gamut of female roles

By Angeline Rodriguez

From March 14-16, theatre majors Sumire Doi '13 and Rachel Goodgal '13 will be performing their senior acting thesis in the Hepburn Zoo.

The show, ambiguously titled *17 1/2*, will be a collection of scenes culled from several modern plays, designed to explore themes of regeneration and starting anew.

"We wanted to do things that were new and fresh, so all the scenes are contemporary," Goodgal said. "The oldest [scene] is from the 70's, and the majority were written in the 2000's."

Goodgal explained that the process of selecting individual scenes was far from straightforward.

"We spent months at first trying to find just one play," Goodgal said. "It's very hard to find plays that have two equal-sized female leads, not many other characters and minimal tech. So by the time we decided to go the scene route, we had read a ton of plays and had a lot of material to choose from."

"But then plays we liked didn't necessarily work as just a scene, so it was a big process choosing what to include," Doi said. "We didn't finalize the material until the end of [winter term]."

For both actors, the selection process was ultimately based upon exploring new roles.

"It became basically about what would be an acting challenge, what would help me stretch," Goodgal said. "I think we are both pretty good at comedy and heightening characters, as we both played in *As You Like It*, so we have a little bit of that and then some stuff that is totally outside what either of us has ever done before."

"One of my most challenging scenes is one where I play a disabled rape victim,"

Doi said. "I was really interested in what it means to be a victim. I feel like all the women we have played are all strong, tough characters that are somehow sort of broken, or in between the broken stage and restarting stage, and this scene is very much in the broken stage."

The result is a broad range of both genre and character, from the provocative comedy of David Ives's *Venus in Fur* to the bittersweet *When You Cure Me* by Jack Thorne.

"Some are very silly and outright comedic, and that's their goal, is comedy," Goodgal said. "There's others that are very dark, and then a few that are in between – dark subject matter done humorously or things that seem on the surface to be everyday but have more depth."

Rather than having one director tackle the thematic smorgasbord, Doi and Goodgal have enlisted Stephen Mrowiec '13, Jake Schwartzwald '14 and Matt Ball '14 to direct scenes individually. "It turned out perfectly," Doi said. "They really know their strengths and their different styles have helped us bring out different strengths as actors."

In addition to these collaborative scenes, which will also feature acting by Noah Berman '13, Charlotte Michaelcheck '15, John Cheesman '16 and Alexander Burnett '16, both Doi and Goodgal will be performing monologues in which they have directed one another.

"I've directed Rachel before, so it felt

natural," Doi said. "But because they're monologues, it's still an individual process. I wrote my own monologue for the project about being a fragmented third-culture kid, and it's scary. I'm going to be vulnerable, because I'm still figuring out what it means to be 'me' on stage."

Finding a common thread can be difficult for such a highly collaborative production, but Doi and Goodgal have a unifying philosophy. "We use the word 'showcase,' which I'm not sure I like because I don't want the project to be just about me acting in it," Doi said. "We were very much about the production, making this project something that's enjoyable for the audience, something that is whole despite having all these fragments and different directors."

SUMIRE DOI '13

"We're obsessed with the audience," Goodgal said. "Aside

from our acting, we wanted to enhance the audience experience and needed some way to tie it together."

The actors are keeping some of their vision a surprise for opening night, but they did divulge that the show will feature live music composed and performed by Mrig Mehra '13 and Mac Stormont '13 of "The Casual Ales," a music group on campus.

With so much emphasis on the audience experience, *17 1/2* promises to be an un-missable performance.

"The feeling we want people to have at the end is hope," Goodgal said. "The evening is kind of a rollercoaster ride. Though some scenes don't end hopefully at all, we want to demonstrate it's possible to start afresh, to revive and to regain strength."

FOR THE RECORD

BY CHAD CLEMENS

Foxygen's new release *We Are the 21st Century Ambassadors of Peace and Magic* is an album like you've never heard before in that, one way or another, it sounds like everything you've ever heard before. These two 20-something-year-olds hailing from the comfy suburbs of northwestern Los Angeles County are not shy in acknowledging their love for and inspiration from the pop and rock gods of the '60s and '70s, yet they fuse their vast array of cited influences together into nine refreshing and addictive tracks to produce an incredibly solid record. After a quick yet highly gratifying 36 minutes and 39 seconds, you'll understand the baby-boomer mantra that their own generation-defining music is better than ours.

After only a few minutes into the album, it is clear that trying to pinpoint their style is – putting it mildly – an ambitious task. Their label, Jagjaguwar (who also represents Midge graduate Kid Millions' band, Oneida) compares their California-psychedelic sound to something along the lines of tripped-out Kinks trying to out-do their magnum opus *Arthur*. Such a description, however, falls flat and certainly

FOXYGEN

We are the 21st Century
Ambassadors of Peace and
Magic

doesn't explain how they can emulate Velvet Underground-era Lou Reed, Bob Dylan and (strangely) the Apples in Stereo in "No Destruction," all at once. And yet, Foxygen is still able to bring out unpredictable tracks like "Shuggie," incorporating elements of steady hip-hop-meets-jazz-funk-fusion interludes and a piano-driven Rolling Stones-esque chorus and then close with a Sgt. Pepper's sing-along fade out, all the while without sounding cheap and gimmicky.

Foxygen's broad, diverse instrumentation coupled with a seamless integration of classic and contemporary arrangements provides a much-needed change of pace from the overly-hyped dream pop that has dominated the indie blogosphere for the past couple of years.

Certainly, they owe credit to producer Richard Swift for their evolution from the mere lo-fi homages in their debut EP *Take the Kids Off Broadway* to the more clean and cohesive quality of *We Are the 21st Century Ambassadors of Peace and Magic*, but these guys deserve praise and respect in their own right.

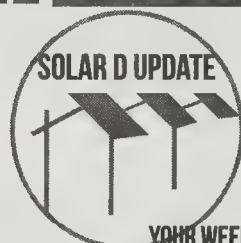
It is pretty surprising for musicians as old as our graduating seniors to succeed in creating something as bold and exciting as this.

What I love best about this album is that, at the root of it all, they're just two kids having a blast playing catchy tunes with lyrics as whimsical and grand as the world they imagine before them. That is not to say they ignore the important stuff – for instance, "On Blue Mountain" kicks off with a crooning loneliness before the drums, guitar and organ layer into a quick-tempo anthem for wayward youth trying to make sense of it all; singer Sam France assures us that "On Blue Mountain, God will save you."

But you know they have a pure love for what they do when they can throw in lines about green soup, roller skates and orange slugs on purple grass to provide some comic relief between moments of confusion and heartbreak. It isn't very often that you hear a song as good as "San Francisco" that seriously incorporates a xylophone as the main instrument.

Simply put, this album is a ton of fun even after the fifth, sixth and seventh listen. If you experienced that seemingly obligatory classic rock phase in middle school like I did, then the nostalgia will hit you hard.

If for some reason you missed it, then *We Are the 21st Century Ambassadors of Peace and Magic* is your chance to relive musical history.



MEET LANCE WATERMAN

By Owen Teach

In its mad dash to complete the 34 panels set to comprise the InSite house in the 2013 Solar Decathlon competition, the Middlebury team, while somewhat familiar with construction and carpentry, needed some outside help. Enter Lance Waterman, a Middlebury-born contractor and University of Vermont graduate, with his chocolate lab named Jasper. In order to get all of the panels done in time for the house's first fabrication period (that is, putting together the panels in a sort of "test run" before shipping them by rail to Irvine, Calif. for assembly during the competition in early October) slated to take place during spring break later this month, the team has turned to Lance to expedite the panel construction process. While students on the team are tasked with developing and finalizing the plans and are also involved actively in panel construction, the team will lean heavily on Lance to ensure that all 34 panels are made in a manner that fits the project schedule. Construction of the panels began at the end of January, and the inside of his barn just 5.1 miles away from the College out on Weybridge Street (pictured behind Lance and Jasper) looks like an industrial lumber yard as the project is in full tilt. I caught up with Lance earlier this week chat about InSite.



OWEN TEACH

Middlebury Campus: Why did you decide to get involved with Solar Decathlon?

Lance Waterman: I was invited to help finish the construction of the 2011 Solar Decathlon project, and the opportunity to work with the students [this year] is truly fantastic – a very ambitious, motivated bunch of people and on a neat project that you just don't run across every day. So often, real budget and pay-back analysis and things limit projects, but a project like this, where it's more about trying concepts and showing some of the cutting edge stuff that most people wouldn't put in a house this size, is neat.

MC: What has been the most rewarding moment thus far?

LW: Meeting the different students. There's a couple of students in my interaction with the project, [namely] Brandon Gell '16 and Kate Eisemann '15, that seem to be doing a lot of heavy lifting. I know that [Gell], for example, wanted to build, and in order to build someone has to draw the plans. So, he took it upon himself to learn the CAD program and draw the panels, which is just an enormous task. [While] Kate does management ... and people throw everything at her and she manages to organize it – it's amazing. As I was getting involved in it, people would say, 'Hey, have you met Kate yet?' and after the third or fourth person said

Local Middlebury contractor Lance Waterman poses in front of his barn with his labrador, Jasper. Waterman is an adviser to the students working on InSite.

that I started wonder 'Who's this person?' Those two seem to just put it together. To meet people of that caliber is super fun.

MC: What has been the most frustrating moment thus far?

LW: The frustrating part only would be that the students are generally trying to learn a whole new language: construction. In most construction projects where you build something, you frame it, you rough in plumbing and you rough in wiring, and there's all these opportunities to get something fixed. You have all the walls and you lay out the circuits and if you need to add another wire, you add another wire. For InSite, trying to figure out which things I don't know and the students don't know about these panels' specifics is sometimes challenging, because they know more about how overall it's going to be put together. So, trying to identify the unknown is really the only frustrating part. It's a whole different language and it's a whole differ-

ent way of looking at things. [It's] certainly not a "keep me awake" frustrating part. There's not one of those.

MC: With all that has to go on before the competition in October, do you think the team will have the house it wants at the Decathlon?

"Coming up with a whole design for a house that fits in shipping containers: that is unique..."

LANCE WATERMAN
MIDDLEBURY CONTRACTOR

have as much continuity and if a student conceives of an idea in the beginning and they leave and someone else picks it up, then their idea might just not end up in the final house. And, likewise, you have students coming on that want things in the house that, realistically, to realize that in the house you would've had to have them built in ahead of time. So, there will be pieces that won't make it through, but

LW: It's an evolving target, because you have a high turnover group and students of different ages coming in and out of the project at different times. Students who are involved in it in the very beginning aren't involved in it at the end. So, you don't

the student group is certainly not one mind and different people are fascinated with different things.

MC: What do you like about the InSite design?

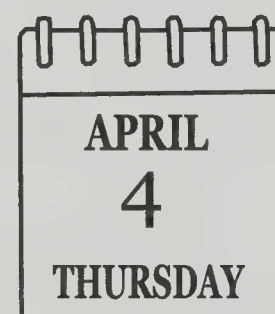
LW: Coming up with a whole design for a house that fits in shipping containers and is shippable that way: that is unique. They are making this house so that it ships by rail, and I think that's one of the neatest things in the house. Overall, it's cool that [the team] has a compact house that showcases a lot of technologies. There's a lot of steel that goes into the frame, and there's a lot that's got to come together.

MC: What has been the biggest challenge for the project?

LW: It's a small team with a big project, and people sign on and have no idea how big of a project it really is. When crunch time comes and people have other obligations, the biggest challenge is going to be that it needs to stay fun and challenging and not overwhelming. You don't want the group of people who worked on this thing to, when [they] see each other in a year or five years, just go "Oh my god we knocked heads so bad" and look the other way. So the biggest challenge is keeping it fun and making people glad they did it.



InSite will be presenting InSite Chili alongside the Middlebury College Dining Services in downtown Middlebury, Vt. during the fifth annual Chili Festival.



Spring Construction Kick-Off event gets going at 4:30 p.m. in Ridgeline Parking Lot.

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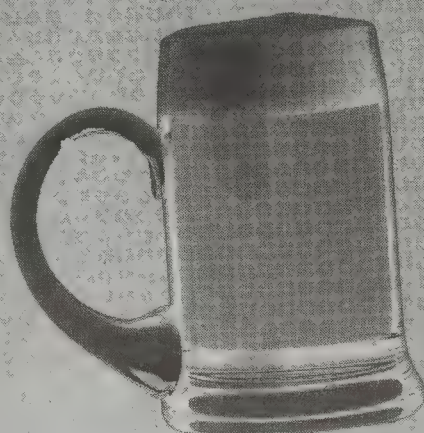
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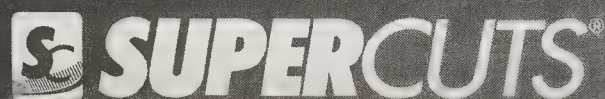


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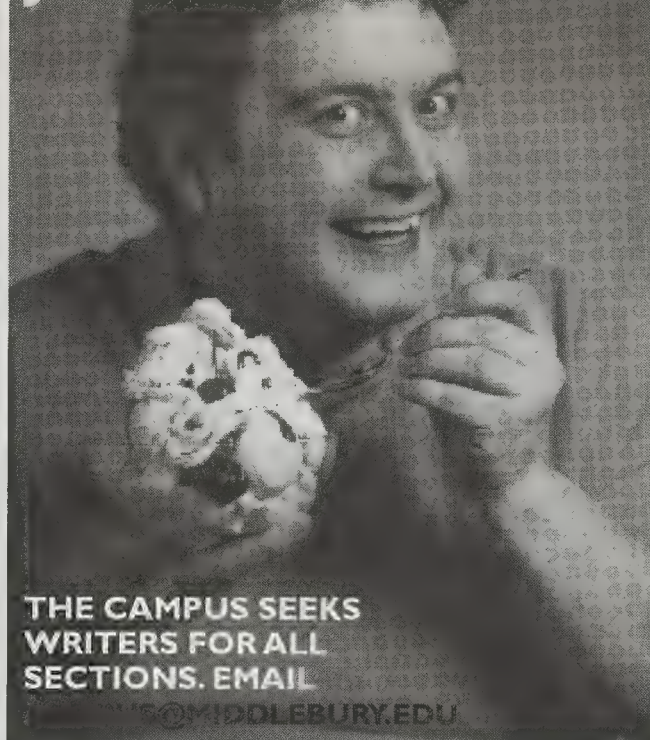
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Panthers advance in NCAs

CONTINUED FROM 28

points on 7-27 shooting in the first half, Middlebury looked sluggish to start the second half, as Curry more than doubled its scoring output over the first 8:07 of the second half.

"The biggest thing was that Curry really cranked up the defensive end," Brown said. "They started to shoot the passing lanes, turned us over, got some easy scores and we really struggled at the start of the second half putting together some offense and they really closed the gap on us," Brown said.

The outburst began less than a minute-and-a-half into the second half as the Colonels slashed the Panthers' lead to seven with a 7-2 run. Middlebury's only basket over that stretch came on a nifty reverse layup by Kizel, who became the third member of the team to reach the 1,000-point mark this season — and the 19th player in program history — after Thompson and Wolfin accomplished the same feat earlier in the year.

Successive layups by Jensen and Roberts extended the team's lead back to nine, but Curry responded with eight straight points to move within a point of the hosts for the first time since Middlebury's first-made basket, 26 seconds into the game.

Middlebury never relinquished its lead, staving off multiple attempts by the Colonels as the visitors cut the deficit down to one on five separate occasions but were never able to tie the game, let alone take the lead outright. While only Lynch scored more than five points in the first half, four different Panther players recorded at least six points in the second half as Jensen, Lynch, Thompson and Kizel combined to score the team's final 31 points of the game.

Kizel led the team with 11 second-half points and continually made plays when the team needed it most, attacking the rim and finishing in the paint or going to the free throw line. With 10:17 remaining, the junior guard from Short Hills, N.J. missed a hanging floater off the backboard, but followed his shot, grabbed the offensive rebound and laid the ball in while getting fouled. The ensuing free throw gave Middlebury a four-point advantage, denying the Colonels an opportunity to take the lead.

"It didn't seem like we had the energy or the focus that we brought in the first half," Kizel said. "At [that] point I was trying to do whatever it took to get the team going."

Stephens, the Colonels' power forward, kept his team close, however, with a game-high 20 points, 12 of which came in the second half. Using his wide body he backed down the taller Lynch and Roberts, demonstrating great touch in the lane and sinking six of eight shots from the line.

"He's just a beast," Lynch said of Stephens. "We were doubling, we were brining help-side defense — we were doing everything. That was a tough matchup."

Kizel's playmaking ability, coupled with clutch shooting from Thompson beyond the arc and made free throws down the stretch from the Panthers, proved too much for the Colonels, however.

With Middlebury leading by three with less than four minutes remaining in the game, Roberts plucked a long rebound out of the air following a Kizel miss. The ball made its way back into Kizel's hands and this time the 6'0" guard attacked the lane and, with the defense collapsing around him, found Thompson on the wing for an open three.

"[Thompson]'s just so steady," said Brown. "He doesn't get down when he is missing shots, and he sat a big chunk of the first half and came out cold at the start of the second half. But he hit a couple of big shots and gave us that separation we needed."

Thompson struck again, less than a minute later, as this time Wolfin found him in the corner for a spot-up three, extending the Panthers' lead to seven. Curry had an answer, however, as guard Lambros Papalambros drained a long three to make it a two-possession game with 1:50 remaining. Following a turnover from Wolfin, Sedale Jones made the first of two free throws to bring Curry within three with 1:22 remaining.

On the second miss, the ball was knocked out to Kizel who found a teammate while being hit from behind. In the confusion, the Panthers held the ball in the backcourt and Kizel, wary of being called for a 10-second violation in the backcourt called timeout.

"Once I had released the ball I was thinking about the shot clock and when I caught the ball with 26 [seconds left on the

clock]," said Kizel. "Luckily I saw the shot clock and immediately called the timeout. It turned out to be a pretty big play."

Coming out of the timeout, the Panthers isolated Kizel who beat his man Papalambros and then cut diagonally through the lane, finishing with his right hand off the window in front of Curry big man John Durkin.

"Once I got into the lane I knew I was going to try to make the play," Kizel said. "A few minutes before I had kicked the ball to [Thompson] for three so they were more spread out [defensively.] I just saw the lane and took the layup."

Trailing 63-58 with 1:01 remaining, Curry executed the final minute almost perfectly given their circumstances, taking — and making — the first good shot attempts they had offensively. Jones cut the lead to two, knocking down a long three with Kizel flying at him after Papalambros missed a layup and the long rebound was tipped into his path. Then, after Kizel made a pair of free throws, Papalambros knocked down another jumper halving the deficit to two.

Following a 30-second Curry timeout, Thompson threw a long, baseball pass down the floor to Jensen who alertly avoided being fouled and found the hustling Thompson — the team's best free-throw shooter, at 82 percent — who was sprinting to the ball. The Akron, Ohio-native was fouled with 11 seconds remaining. Two made free throws would have all but clinched a victory.

Instead, Thompson's first free throw bounced out before he coolly sank the second. In a scenario eerily similar to Middlebury's overtime games against Wesleyan and Amherst, the Panthers led by three with seconds remaining.

We [were] prepared to play that situation both ways," Brown wrote in an email. "A concern that I had at the time was [Curry's] Stephens getting great position on the foul shot. The time also played into the decision [not to foul]."

The Colonels got a quick shot from three as Antonio Jones got a free look from the right wing. Unlike so many other late-game situations that Middlebury has experienced over the past two seasons, Jones's shot fell just short, and went through the hands of Stephens out of bounds.

"I thought it was definitely going in just because of all the misfortunes we've had in those late game situations," said Kizel. "But I guess the numbers finally decided to go our way this time."

The Colonels fouled Lynch who needed to make just one free throw with three seconds left to seal the victory. Lynch made both, providing the Panthers' with the necessary two-point cushion when Sedale Jones launched a last second shot from half court that banked home.

THE MIDDLEBURY GREAT GR8 EIGHT

RANKING CHANGE TEAM

Owen's Opinions

- SKIING**
Go check out American studies major Andrew McNealus '13 at NCAs.
- MEN'S BASKETBALL**
It was too close for comfort, but a win is a win.
- WOMEN'S HOCKEY**
A thrilling NESCAC final vs. Bowdoin earns them #3.
- DIVING**
An impressive entry into
- WOMEN'S LACROSSE**
It's almost time for the team to repeat its trip to the Final 4.
- TRACK AND FIELD**
Women's DMR is looking for third straight NCAA title.
- MEN'S HOCKEY**
Despite an 8-4-0 finish to the year, Middlebury failed to qualify for NCAs for the third consecutive year.
- MEN'S LACROSSE**
Last year was rough. Time to turn it around.

Lynch led the team with 17 points on 5-10 shooting and Kizel and Thompson each added 13. Jensen, meanwhile, had nine points while playing 25 minutes off the bench as he and Lynch worked in tandem in the post.

"The whole week in practice I just wanted to be more aggressive on the offensive end," said Jensen. "I was making backdoor cuts, face cuts — I cut on Sedale [Jones] and [Lynch] threw it over the top. We had been doing that all week in practice and hard work pays off."

The win advanced Middlebury to the second round of the NCAA tournament. The Panthers travel to Cortland State on Saturday, March 9 to play the Red Dragons who have yet to lose on their home floor this season. Middlebury enters the game 11 for its last 48 from beyond the arc, a trend the team will have to correct in order to beat Red Dragons, who shoots 43 percent as a team from distance on their home floor.

PANTHER SCOREBOARD

MEN'S HOCKEY vs. Bowdoin	4-2 ^L
MEN'S BASKETBALL vs. Curry College	68-66 ^W
WOMEN'S HOCKEY vs. Bowdoin	2-1 ^L

The men fell short of a repeat of last year's season.

A close call from the team in the first round of NCAs

The women come up short in the NESCAC Championship game.

PANTHER PROFILE

Interviews with Middlebury's Student Athletes

By Christine Schozer

1 What are you looking forward to at NCAs?
I'm looking forward to competing on our home hill in a major event [with all of our fans.] I tend to do better in bigger events, so it should be exciting.

2 What is your first memory of the sport?
I started skiing pretty young, so there are a lot of memories. I spent most of my time hanging out in the ski club and on the hill. One time I was skiing with my dad and sister and I ran into a tree. I was fine, but after that my parents got me a helmet.

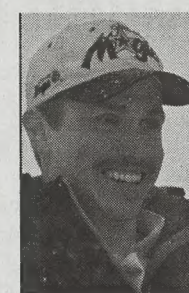
3 What is your most recent stand out memory?
Hanging out with all the seniors on the circuit at Sunday River after our last carnival. The ski world is pretty small, so we are close with a lot of the guys we race against. Our captain, Bryan Shpall '13, had a great performance that day, so it was fun to celebrate with him.

4 What has been a pivotal moment in your career so far?
My pivotal moment came after my first season. I did a few individual races after the carnival season was over. I had a couple good races and figured some stuff out. I figured some technical stuff, but really just got more confident and lowered my ranking. After a pretty mediocre season it got me fired up to work hard in the summer and that paid off the following season. The next year I skied much better.

5 How has life as an athlete helped you as a student?
Being an athlete has taught me how to manage my time. Skiing is very time consuming, so getting all my American studies work done can be tough.

6 Why do you love skiing?
I love skiing because of the people I get to do it with and because of the uniqueness of the sport. Also, the feeling of making a really good turn is unreal.

Andrew McNealus '13 (Woodstock, Vt.) is a member of the Middlebury alpine ski team. McNealus started skiing when he was two years old because he comes from a family of skiers. His father, a former Middlebury skier, coached him growing up at his local ski area, Suicide Six, which is just minutes from his house. McNealus first raced when he was seven years old. He attended Green Mountain Valley School to compete at a higher level. At Middlebury, McNealus has qualified for NCAA four times, competed three times and has been named an All-American twice.



Men's hockey falters in NESCAC semifinals at Bowdoin

By Owen Teach

Coming off an upset win in the quarterfinal round of the NESCAC tournament against Amherst, the men's hockey team traveled to Brunswick, Maine for a shot at reaching the program's second consecutive NESCAC title game. Despite getting within two goals of Bowdoin on Robbie Dobrowski's '15 third period goal in the conference semifinal game on Saturday, March 2, Middlebury fell short of the Polar Bears 4-2, cutting short its bid for the NCAA tournament for the third consecutive year.

The Panthers entered the game against Bowdoin hoping that the Polar Bears might struggle to find their offensive rhythm early on, as they did the week before in their 5-3 quarterfinal win against Hamilton. Bowdoin needed a three-goal third period to get by the Continentals, considered to be the weakest team in the tournament field.

Bowdoin, however, bested Middlebury goalkeeper Mike Peters '15 twice in the first period on a pair of goals from forward Danny Palumbo. Already trailing after Palumbo's first, the Panthers conceded with just 39 seconds remaining after a nifty passing play from a trio of Bowdoin players to head into the first break down 2-0.

Head coach Bill Beaney spoke about the effect of the demoralizing last-minute goal.

"If you take a hard look at the game, the goal that really hurt us was the goal with 39 seconds left in the first period," said Beaney. "I thought we played a poor first, and if we could've come out down only one goal it would've been a morale victory."

In the second period, Peters put together a string of solid saves at the four-minute mark before Bowdoin broke the away team's defense once more to stretch its lead to 3-0. This time, Daniel Weiniger intercepted the puck at the Panther blue line before beating a Middlebury defender to finish a snap-shot past Peters 7:29 into the period.

Beaney touched on the difficulty of being three goals down at that point in the contest.

"In the second, our goal was then to come out and get it back to one goal, we had two good looks [early on] and couldn't

convert," he said. "They got another one and [3-0] is a tough lead to overcome."

Even though the shot tally remained even through much of the game, with Middlebury's 17 third-period shots actually giving the Panthers a 34-29 game advantage, Bowdoin frustrated the Panther attack through much of the game.

This changed at the 16:27 mark of the second when All-NESCAC second-team selection Robbie Donahoe '14 broke through the Bowdoin line late in the period, putting home a rebound off an initial shot from Mike Longo '14. Down two goals at the end of the second, Beaney called on his team to repeat a similar performance from earlier in the year.

"Basically what we said is, 'in November we were down 4-2 in the third and we came back to tie 4-4,'" said Beaney. "I told them it was no different now than then. It seemed as though every time we got one they countered with one, though, and we could never get it back to a one-goal game."

Bowdoin opened the third period by notching a goal at 3:42, before Middlebury's Dobrowski, with an assist from Max Greenwald '16, cashed in on a flurry of action in front of the net to make the score 4-2.

Then, with 10 minutes left to play, Middlebury earned a final chance for a comeback in the form of a two-man advantage on a pair of Bowdoin penalties. The Panthers failed to convert on the opportunity, going zero for three on the power play overall in the game.

"I thought that was going to be our opportunity to get back into the game. We had a couple of good looks and I thought that the puck was in the right place, but we weren't able to execute," said Beaney. "You need some luck on the power play, and we didn't get a whole lot of it on that one. I think that had we gotten one there it would've changed the game going forward."

To finish the game, Polar Bear goalie Max Fenkell stopped 16 of 17 shots in the third period to put Bowdoin in the NESCAC finals with a 4-2 win.

The next day, Sunday, March 3, Bowdoin skated to the NESCAC championship with a 2-1 win against Williams, who defeated Trinity 4-2 in the other semifinal the day before.



FILE PHOTO

Despite a late season surge, the men's hockey team fell in the NESCAC quarterfinals to Bowdoin 4-2 on March 2. This game marks the end of the season for the team as they failed to qualify for the NCAA tournament for the third year in a row.

The Panthers are now left to face another offseason of work to get Middlebury back to the NCAA tournament. Not since Middlebury lost to Plattsburgh State in overtime three years ago in January 2010 has the team seen NCAA tournament action.

The Panthers will look towards a bevy of returning talent, including NESCAC Rookie of the Year Matt Silcoff '16, who finished the season with 11 goals and 13 assists, and All-NESCAC second team selection Donahoe to do the job next year.

"There were a number of games this year where Matt was best player on the ice for either team," said Beaney. "If he can take a step back and put in some work in the offseason, he really could become one of the great Middlebury players. While, I thought Robbie on Saturday up in Maine was the best player on the ice, period - he was all over the ice making plays and creating chances."

Beaney also pointed to the coaching staff's frustration over Louis Belisle '14

not receiving an all-NESCAC selection after his stellar play this year, both on offense and defense.

As the season came to an end on Saturday, graduating captain Mathieu Castonguay '13 is confident the team will have a number of players returning to leadership roles.

"There is a ton of firepower returning to the team next year and I think that Peters can be proud of what he accomplished [in net] towards the end of the season," he said.

Peters is also proud of how his team performed towards the end of the year.

"I think that the team really stepped it up at the end of the year," said Peters. "I think that we have a lot of talented first-years on the team who now have gotten acclimated to college hockey and we will look to them to be more consistent contributors next season."

Panther faithful now begin the eight-month wait for puck drop in November 2013.

Women's hockey to play Norwich in NCAA in quarters

CONTINUED FROM 28

the end of the 60-minute game.

Bowdoin set the pace for the game within the first 58 seconds of the first period when Chelsea MacNeil scored their first goal for the Polar Bears. Middlebury came back halfway through the first period, however, to equalize the score at 1-1 with a goal from Lauren Greer '13, assisted by Sara Ugalde '14 and Styrbicki.

Both teams failed to score in the second period, ending 40 minutes with a 1-1 tie.

Bowdoin managed to take the lead 2:49 into the third period, advancing the score to 2-1. Krakower and Sullivan took multiple shots for the Panthers but failed to score down the stretch.

With 1:10 remaining in the third period, Middlebury pulled their goalie in hopes to create some opportunities but were unable to crack the stout Bowdoin defense.

The game ended with a 2-1 loss for the home team and a conference title for the Polar Bears, their first since 2004. Middlebury struggled to top Bowdoin in shots on net; Bowdoin tallied 38 shots and Middlebury only 25. Jones had a notable 36 saves to help the Panthers stay in the game.

"To be completely honest, you can never really be content when you lose,"

said Krakower. "Bowdoin is a team that works really hard but so are we. We put in one of our best efforts this season. However, there is always something more you can do. It wasn't a lack of effort. We just could not capitalize on our chances."

Regardless of the loss, the Panther women have received an at-large bid to the NCAA tournament, the squad's 11th tournament appearance in the past 12 years. Middlebury has qualified for NAAs every year since 2000, with the exception of the 2010 season.

The women have won the NCAA championship five times in the program's history, most recently after the 2006 season. Last year, the Panthers lost in the quarterfinal round to Plattsburgh, 4-2.

Middlebury will play in the quarterfinals in Norwich this Saturday, March 9.

"We ended the season on such a strong note that we are feeling confident going into NAAs," said Krakower. "We have only played Norwich once this year and we lost, so now is our chance to beat them. We are heading into this tournament wanting to show everyone that we belong there. This is the biggest part of the season and there is nothing more that we'd want than to meet Bowdoin again [at NAAs] in Wisconsin."

NCAA QUALIFIERS:

SWIM&DIVING

IAN MACKAY '14
50 free, 100 fly, 100 free

COURTNEY HARON '15
200/400 Medley relay, 200/400 free relay, 500 free, 200 free

JAMIE HILLAS '15
200/400 Medley relay, 200/400 free relay, 100 breast, 200 breast

ANDIE TIBBETTS '14
200/400 Medley relay, 200/400 free relay, 100 back

MADDY BERKMAN '15
200/400 Medley relay, 200/400 free relay, 200 fly

MEGAN GRIFFIN '16
200 Medley relay, 200/400 free relay

COLLEEN HARPER '14
Diving

TRACK&FIELD

SARAH O'BRIEN '13
Distance Medley Relay (DMR)

ALEX MORRIS '16
Distance Medley Relay (DMR)

JULIET RYAN-DAVIS '13
Distance Medley Relay (DMR), 800 m

ADDIE TOUSLEY '13
Distance Medley Relay (DMR), Mile, 5,000m

ALISON MAXWELL '15
Mile

Indoor track team heads to NCAAs

By Alex Edel

Members of the women's and men's indoor track and field teams split up to compete in two meets this Saturday, March 2. While much of the team traveled to the ECAC championship in New York, N.Y., those who were looking for NCAA qualifying marks competed in the Tufts Last Chance meet. Several athletes had outstanding performances resulting in qualifying times for NCAAs and new school records.

While no members of the men's team were able to qualify for NCAAs, several members of the team were extremely close. The men's distance medley relay (DMR) team of Wilder Schaaf '14.5, Fritz Parker '15, Patrick Hebble '13 and Jack Davies '13 finished 11th nationally, just one spot away from making the meet.

Kevin Chu '14 came back from an injury to run a best time of 8.28 seconds in the 60-meter hurdles at the ECAC championships, good for second place. This time nearly qualified him for the NCAA meet, though he fell just short.

After being out for almost all of the championship meets, Chu thanks both athletic trainer Sue Murphy and the team for helping him to come back so strong.

"It pains me to have to miss any meet, whether it is a simple dual meet or a championship meet," said Chu. "Every competitive fiber in my body wants to be racing every weekend and scoring points for our team. The long-term focus is something that I did a much better job maintaining over the last month."

Sam Craft '14 finished second in the 1,000 meters at ECACs, breaking the school record in 2:30.41. He will look to parlay that performance into success in the 800 meters this spring.

Meanwhile, at Tufts, Juliet Ryan-Davis '13 won the 600-meter in 1:34.98, a new school record time. Allison Maxwell '15 also placed first for Middlebury in the mile with a time of 4:49.53 to qualify her for the NCAA meet as the eighth seed.

The NCAA accepts 10 men's and 12 women's relays into the championship meet, with 13 men's and 16 women's

entries accepted.

"The season's going great," said Aleck Silva-Pinto '16. "There have been a lot of records broken. I hope the women's DMR wins at nationals, but it was too bad to see the men's DMR get snubbed."

Going into the NCAA meet, Middlebury's women's DMR relay is seeded first, having run a Division III national record time last weekend at the Open New England championships. Sarah O'Brien '13, Alexandra Morris '16, Ryan-Davis and Addie Tousley '13 will look to better their time of 11:39.95 and hold onto their first place seed as they look for their third straight national championship in that event.

While these women continue to train for the NCAA meet which will take place March 8 and 9 in Naperville, Ill., the rest of the team will continue to train in preparation for the indoor track and field season.

"The team goal for outdoor is to build off of our indoor success and make a run for the NESCAC team title," said Chu.

"My freshman year [2011] our men's team had the highest cumulative GPA of any track team in the country across all divisions, and I would love to see us return to the top of the standings there as well."

BY THE NUMB3RS

3 Consecutive years the men's hockey team has failed to qualify for NCAAs, the longest such streak since the 90's.

NCAA appearances for women's hockey over the past 12 seasons.

11

3 Men's basketball players to reach the 1,000-point career mark this year. Joey Kizel '14 is the latest.

First-half three-point percentage for men's basketball in the win over Curry.

9.1

5 Teams to hold the top spot in the Division I men's basketball poll this year.

Number of season-opening losses for Dave Campbell in seven years as men's lacrosse coach.

0

Middlebury hosts 60th NCAA Skiing Championships

CONTINUED FROM 28

March 9, the alpine portion of the event will be taking place at the Snow Bowl while the nordic races alight on the racecourses of the newly refashioned Carroll and Jane Rikert Nordic Center. In addition, a championship banquet, administrative meetings and other events are scheduled over the course of the week.

Boasting 17 state-of-the-art trails, the Snow Bowl is a popular destination for students, faculty and staff, as well as local residents. In order to maintain its preeminence, the Snow Bowl has been regularly refurbished in the lead-up to this year. In 2006, the Ross and Allen trails — where the slalom and giant slalom races of the championship are contested — were widened and had their contours groomed. In 2009, a chairlift worth \$1.7 million was installed to replace the then-existing double-chair lift.

The new fixed-grip, triple-chair lift is located on Worth Mountain, the alpine competition site. Moreover, fiber-optic cable was added to improve communication services at the venue. This week, in addition to the live online webcast, the 15-foot wide video board located at the bottom of the hill near the base lodge will display all downhill races and allow spectators to have a clear view of the skiers' high-level performance. In conjunction with this broadcast, two-time Olympian and Vermont native Doug Lewis will provide commentary to complement the visual performance.

Meanwhile, a mile-and-a-half west of the Snow Bowl, trails at the Rikert

Nordic Center have been restored and redesigned in anticipation of the event. Under the leadership of Hussey, who was appointed as the director of Rikert in April 2011, Middlebury's cross-country skiing headquarters have been upgraded in a myriad ways. A new groomer was purchased, a five-kilometer course was constructed in 2011 and an \$850,000 snowmaking system — the most extensive of its kind in North America — was installed in early February this year. With inconsistent snowfall over the past month, the snowmaking machines have been put to good use, and staff at Rikert have been consistently making snow in the past weeks to prevent having to move the event to another venue.

"The 5K Tormondsen Family Race Trail is built to Fédération Internationale de Ski (FIS) specifications," said Hussey in regards to the newly furnished competition trail. "With the certification of the FIS we are able to host championship races and other national and international events. It is a great spectators course, as the competitors will pass by the spectators in the stadium area a number of times in the 5K loop. It is a trail that takes both stamina and strategy to be able to win a race."

With state-of-the-art skiing facilities and professional management at both venues, top skiers from all over the country, the College is well prepared to host this high-stakes championship event.

Quinn believes that the dedication and the exceptional work of the personnel involved is a vital ingredient to the major undertaking of the College.



FILE PHOTO

Middlebury is hosting the 60th NCAA Championships for skiing from March 6 - 9 at the Snow Bowl and the Rikert Nordic Center for the fifth time in the College's history.

"The staff at the Snow Bowl and Rikert have been outstanding, as have our ski coaches, Director of Sports Medicine Dave Matthews, Brad Nadeau and Franklin Dean-Farrar," said Quinn. "In addition, lots of other people have had a hand in various aspects of the planning. We have had excellent partners in town at the Middlebury Inn and the Courtyard by Marriott as well. We were also fortunate that we were able to hire former ski

coach and cross country coach, Terry Aldrich, to serve as the tournament director; we could not have done it without him."

Nordic events are being held at Rikert today and Saturday, March 9, while the alpine competition began at the Snow Bowl yesterday and will conclude tomorrow. A number of Middlebury skiers, including a full alpine men's team and nordic women's team, qualified for the events.

EDITORS' PICKS



DAMON HATHEWAY (98-82, .544)



FRITZ PARKER (10-11, .476)



OWEN TEACH (57-67, .460)



ALEX EDEL (77-96, .445)

Will Lauren Greer '13 record a point vs. Norwich in the women's ice hockey NCAA quarterfinals?

YES

She has scored 18 points in 21 games this year and has regained her scoring touch.

NO

Norwich is really good...

YES

I wrote this question knowing that it couldn't possibly do me wrong...

YES

She is an amazing athlete and in her last hockey season, she will for sure be scoring.

Who will win this weekend's men's hoops Sweet 16 matchup: Middlebury or Cortland State?

MIDDLEBURY

This game scares the s**t out of me.

MIDDLEBURY

Cortland has played a cupcake schedule and can't handle Hunter Merryman '15 aka "The Mask."

MIDDLEBURY

Damon told me not to follow my heart when making these answers. Not this time.

MIDDLEBURY

It's pretty much a toss up on this one, but I have to stick with our boys.

Over/Under: 9.5 goals for women's lacrosse vs. Bates at home this Saturday?

OVER

The team averaged 12.5 goals per game last year.

OVER

The women won't have any trouble with the Bobcats.

OVER

They didn't make it to the final four by not scoring goals. That's a double negative right there, folks.

OVER

They scored 12 last year in their first game of the season, and they have been training harder than ever in preseason.

How many points in the NHL will the Blackhawks record Wednesday-Saturday (3 games)?

SEVEN

Two wins and an overtime loss. 'Cause you get points for losing in hockey.

SIX

Kane don't mess around.

FOUR

Or did you, Alex...

NINE

Apparently they are undefeated in regulation, and I just learned how NHL standings work. #iknowsports

Men's hoops slips by Curry with 88-86 win

By Damon Hatheway

The seventh-ranked men's basketball team advanced to the second round of the NCAA tournament for the fourth consecutive year, escaping with a 68-66 win over Curry College on Saturday March 2. The Panthers' two-point win marked the third game in the last four that was decided by one possession or overtime.

Middlebury jumped out to a quick 6-0 lead over an out-of-sync Curry, as tri-captain Jake Wolfen '13 scored all four of his points in the opening 3:03 of play and tri-captain Nolan Thompson '13 was left all alone for an easy layup. Thompson was then called for two quick fouls, one a moving screen, the other a blocking call on which the NESCAC Defensive Player of the Year appeared to be in perfect defensive position, but was whistled nonetheless. It marked the first time that Thompson has picked up two fouls in the first half of a game this season.

With Thompson on the bench, James Jensen '14 and Hunter Merryman '15 provided head coach Jeff Brown with valuable contributions early in the game. After Curry's 6'5", 255-pound forward AJ Stephens cut the Middlebury lead to three, Merryman scored five consecutive points over a 1:32 span, draining a three from the left wing and then cutting to the basket for an easy layup. Stephens, however, kept the visitors in the game, accounting for eight of his team's first nine points.

The Panthers continued to receive solid bench play as reserve guard Nate Bulluck '14 scored three straight for Middlebury, sinking one of two free throws before finding himself on the receiving end of a Joey Kizel '14 pass in transition. The frontcourt then took over for Middlebury as the combination of Peter Lynch '13, Jack Roberts '14 and Jensen combined to score the final 11 points of the half for the Panthers.

"We hit a bunch of jump shots



VIVIANA ALTAMIRANO

James Jensen '14 scored nine points in 25 minutes off the bench in Middlebury's 68-66 victory.

early that opened up the inside and allowed us to play inside-outside," said Lynch. "When I got the ball down low I knew that if I kicked the ball out they were going to hit the shot so it's a lot harder for the [defense] to play honestly. I think that's when we're at our best — when we're working in and out, and I think we did a very good job of that."

While Lynch led the team at the

half with eight points, the team's balanced scoring — eight players recorded two or more points in the first half for the Panthers — and defensive effort gave Middlebury a 12-point lead at the half.

Roberts and Jensen, in particular, were stellar on the defensive end, the former blocking three shots and altering numerous others, while the latter held Curry's leading scorer, Commonwealth Coast College Player of the Year

Sedale Jones, to just four points on 1-7 shooting.

"I thought we did a pretty good job on their inside guy as well as on their perimeter scorers," said Brown. "A big key to the game was the job James Jensen did on Sedale Jones in the first half. James really gave us a lot of energy on the defensive end."

After holding Curry to just 19

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Women's hockey falls in NESCAC finals, receives bid to NCAA tourney

By Mary Claire Ecclesine

This past Saturday and Sunday, March 2 and 3, the Middlebury women's ice hockey team hosted the NESCAC tournament in Kenyon Arena, falling short in their quest for a consecutive conference championship.

On Saturday the Panthers took on Connecticut College in the semifinals of the tournament and won the game 4-1 to advance to the finals the following day. Sunday's matchup brought together the top two teams in the league, Middlebury and Bowdoin, head-to-head to compete for the league title. The game ended in a devastating 2-1 loss for the Panthers.

Middlebury's game against Conn College resulted in a 4-1 win with one goal in the first period, one goal in the second and two goals in the third period. During a power play at the 14:53 mark in the first period, Madison Styrbicki '13 had a shot that was rebounded by Emily Fluke '15 to put the Panthers in the lead by one. Fluke's goal was her 16th of the season, putting her on top of the stats sheet as the leading scorer for the 2013 season.

Nearly two minutes into the second period, Jennifer Krakower '14 made a long pass to Madeline Joyce '14 who tapped in her sixth goal of the season. Connecticut College came back with a goal less than a minute later, but the Panthers continued to stay in the lead on the scoreboard and in control on

the ice. The third period began with another quick goal for the home team, scored by Katie Sullivan '13 and assisted by Hannah Bielawski '15 and Joyce. At the 11:32 mark, the Panthers took an even more comfortable lead when Joyce tapped in her second goal of the game with the help of teammates Sullivan and Bielawski.

Middlebury took the lead in shots on net, totaling 38 compared to Conn. College's 29. Conn. College, however, took the lead in penalties, giving Middlebury eight extra minutes

of power plays throughout the game. Goalie Annabelle Jones '15 had an extremely impressive game with 28 saves.

"Ending the way we did definitely brought our team some confidence going into Sunday's game as our previous record with them was 1-1," said Krakower.

Even with that confidence, however, the game on Sunday did not end in Middlebury's favor. The team played hard and put up a serious fight against Bowdoin but fell just short at

SEE WOMEN'S, PAGE 26



JESSICA MUNYON

Lauren Greer '13 skates by a Bowdoin defender. Greer scored the team's lone goal on the power play 10 minutes into the first period.

Rikert and Snow Bowl prep for NCAA races

By Lok Sze Leung

The 2013 NCAA Skiing Championships is well underway at the Snow Bowl and the Rikert Nordic Center. Described by Athletic Director Erin Quinn as a "once-in-a-decade" Middlebury event, the Championships required comprehensive and meticulous preparation work. From submitting a bid back in 2009 to running all the races smoothly throughout the week, a great amount of resources, time and manpower have been dedicated to making the 60th NCAA Skiing Championship a success.

This marks the fifth time the College has hosted the nationwide ski races. The College has previously been selected to host the event in 1961, 1972, 1988 and 2001 — approximately once every 10 years — establishing its ski slopes as some of the most storied in Championship history.

Given that ski programs are not delineated by division, the NCAA Championships stand, across the country, as the most significant collegiate ski carnival of the year. Other sports events of comparable scale hosted by the College include the men's and women's ice hockey championships, most recently in the 2009.

"There are not too many other opportunities to host the actual championships," said Quinn. "It is a great honor for Middlebury College Athletics and our ski programs. It is also an honor for the staff at the Snow Bowl and Rikert to showcase their facilities and professionalism."

In addition to Quinn, the Organizing Committee is comprised of Championship Director and former Middlebury ski coach Terry Aldrich, Operations and Events Manager Franklin Dean-Farrar

of Athletic Facilities, Director of Athletics Communication Brad Nadeau, Snow Bowl Director Peter Mackey and Rikert Director Mike Hussey.

With regards to the role of the committee, Aldrich explained, "The Organizing Committee has been meeting for over a year. The committee has [the] responsibility to make sure all NCAA rules, regulations and guidelines are met."

Along list of logistics is involved. "We are hosting a banquet and an awards barbeque for over 200 skiers, coaches and administrators," said Aldrich. "Equipment such as racing bibs, snow fencing, alpine gates, cross country course markers, all had to be ordered. Reservations at local hotels had to be made for members of the NCAA ski committee. Arrangements at the Middlebury Inn, our race headquarters, needed to be made for the nightly meetings. Organizing the huge number of volunteers necessary to administer races of this magnitude has been a major responsibility. Peter Mackey and Mike Hussey have been very busy making snow for the event and grooming to ensure that we can provide the safest and best-prepared courses. These are just a few of the responsibilities of the Organizing Committee."

The week-long event is celebrated both on and off the ski slopes. Beginning on Sunday, March 3, 21 colleges and universities gathered in Middlebury for the 60th NCAA Ski Championships, including teams hailing from as far away as Montana, Alaska, Utah, New Mexico and Colorado. The race venues were open on March 4 and 5 for all skiers to practice and be familiarized with the competition routes. From March 6 through

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